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CONTADORA GROUP EXPERTS MEETING CONCLUDES

PA231737 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 23 Jun 83

[Text] The meeting of the Contadora Team of Experts concluded last night. These officials met for 2 days in Panama to prepare the agenda for the high-level meeting that the Contadora Group will hold with its Central American collegues in the first week of July.

Ricardo Valero, Mexico's assistant foreign secretary; Leopoldo Castillo, Venezuelan foreign policy adviser; Julio Londono, deputy foreign minister of Colombia; and Oscar Vargas, acting deputy foreign minister of Panama, met at the Foreign Ministry's Ricardo J. Alfaro room with their Central American counterparts.

The Central American officials who participated in the meeting were Costa Rican Deputy Foreign Minister Alvar Antillon; Nicaraguan Foreign Policy Director Leonte Herdocia; Policarpo Callejas, foreign policy adviser at the Honduran Foreign Secretariat; Salvadoran Foreign Policy Adviser (Joaquin Maza); and Guatemalan Deputy Foreign Minister Edgardo Serceno Mora.

The technical group met in Panama to decide on a conceptual framework for dealing with the social and economic problems and security issues established in the agenda decided upon at the last Contadora Group meeting with the Central American foreign ministers.

Here is a final news bulletin on the meeting from INTERPRESS colleague Rafael Gribal: [Begin recording] The Contadora Group technical meeting has concluded in a favorable atmosphere. The meeting of the Contadora Group technical team with representatives of the five countries of the region concluded last night after 2 days in which the most complex subjects were discussed in detail, in line with that which was established by the foreign ministers of Mexico, Venezuela, Colombia, and Panama and their colleagues from Costa Rica, Nicaragua, El Salvador, Honduras, and Guatemala in the 28-30 May meeting.

The meeting that has just concluded took place in accordance with the agenda approved by the nine foreign ministers, the subjects of which were: a conceptual framework, political and security problems, economic and social objectives, and implementation of agreements.

The technical group put pertinent observations and opinions on record, which will be presented to the foreign ministers for discussion at the meeting that they will hold in July, the date of which has not yet been set. Thus, the Contadora Group countries continue their peace initiative, which has the support of both the Central American countries and the international community. [end recording]

ARMED FORCES 'CONCERNED' ABOUT POLITICAL CLIMATE

PY232040 La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 16 Jun 83 p 1

[Text] Army Commander General Simon Sejas Tordoya said yesterday that "the high military command is concerned about the political situation, and this concern has been conveyed to the nation's president." Yesterday, the high military command had breakfast with the president, who was then informed of the needs of the military institutions.

The meeting was attended by Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces General Alfredo Villaroel Barja, Army Commander General Simon Sejas Tordoya, Air Force Commander General Juan Munoz Revollo, and Naval Force Commander Vice Admiral Wilfredo de la Barra.

After the meeting, Gen Tordoya said that the Army had brought up aspects of the country's political development: "The public know that the Armed Forces, and particicularly the Army, have been an important factor in the current restoration of the democratic process, because all their members realized that the armed forces had to resume their specific functions as mandated by the Constitution."

He stated that only a constitutional government could come to grips with the economic and financial crisis which the country faces. Tordoya said: "Unfortunately, however, the situation has deteriorated in general. In view of this, the Armed Forces cannot be indifferent or insensitive to the nation's affairs."

He noted: "At the meeting with the nation's president, we reiterated our strong democratic and institutional conviction that the Constitution and the existing democratic pluralism must be respected. We also stated that we are not at the service of any politician or sectarian interest."

General Tordoya added that he had conveyed to the president the concern of the commanders of the Army's units, large and small, about the need "for overhauling the political front which took responsibility for the country's government, under the leadership of the constitutional president." The need is for "overcoming circumstancial antagonism within the front so that an overall plan can be implemented for resolving the serious problems, which have been made worse by floods, drought, and declining production."

General Tordoya also reported that part of the meeting was devoted to talking about military activities, and noted that without neglecting the training of our cadres, we are always in the position to fulfill our institutional duty of preventing internal chaos. To produce this chaos, the enemies of true democracy are always working to prevent the balance of powers needed to guarantee peaceful coexistence among Bolivians and to prevent the hegemony of one sector to the detriment of all others. He did not elaborate on the question of "hegemony," but insisted on the need for respecting the national institutions and the judicial and legal system, which ensure a way of life in accordance with the Constitution. He said: "Whoever does not respect that judicial and legal system is an opponent of democracy, no matter his pretenses to the contrary. Tordoya ultimately said that he had reported to the president on the mobilization of the military to confront the economic crisis, especially to secure self-sufficiency in food supplies for the Army.

AIRPORT STRIKE NOW TO LAST INDEFINITELY

PY231435 La Paz Cadena Panamaericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 23 Jun 83

[Text] The National General Assembly of AASANA [Auxiliary Air Navigation Services Administration] Labor Federation will start an indefinite general strike at noon today, Thursday, following the 36-hour strike called yesterday in view of the fact that no solutions to the conflict is in sight at the government level.

TROOP MOBILIZATION AGAINST COCAINE KING DENIED

PY232010 Paris AFP in Spanish 1825 GMT 23 Jun 83

[Excerpt] La Paz, 23 Jun (AFP) -- General Alfredo Villarroel Baraja, Bolivian Armed Forces commander in chief, today denied having ordered troops mobilized toward various towns in Beni Department, northern Bolivia, in order to capture Roberto Suarez Gomez, the cocaine king.

Gustavo Sanchez Salazar, under secretary of the Interior Ministry, announced yesterday that combined Army and police forces have been sent to San Borja, Reyes, and Rurrenabaque.

In a harsh voice Gen Villarroel Baraja emphasized that in keeping with constitutional provisions, only the president of the nation, Hernan Siles Zuazo, can order troop mobilizations in the country.

ARMED FORCES EXPEL RICO TORO FROM ARMY

PY231844 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 23 Jun 83

[Excerpt] In compliance with a military court ruling, the commander in chief of the armed forces has expelled Colonel Jose Faustino Rico Toro from the Bolivian Army. The decision is based on a concrete accusation of desertion, according to a document released at noon today by the armed forces Public Relations Department. The document states that Colonel Rico Toro has abandoned his specific functions as military attache to the Bolivian Embassy in South Korea.

When Rico Toro was designated to this post, he did not comply with the appropriate orders to carry out his functions, although he made tourist trips through Europe, the Middle East, the United States, and other Latin American nations.

VELARDE DORADO NEXT TO SILES IN MNRI LEADERSHIP

PY231657 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 23 Jun 83

[Excerpt] Mario Velardo Dorado is the MNRI's [Nationalist Revolutionary Movement of the Left] top authority after party leader Hernan Siles Zuazo. A party communique signed by President Siles Zuazo makes this fact clear. Therefore, Mario Velarde Dorado, former Bolivian foreign minister, is fully authorized to convene and chair meetings of the National Directorate and the Political Committee of the party.

The above-mentioned communique reads as follows: MNRI's national leader informs the party members that he has accepted with true regret the irrevocable resignation of Executive Secretary Felix Rospigliosi. In accordance with the party charter, the MNRI secretary general is the party's top authority after the national leader; therefore, the secretary is fully authorized to convene and chair meetings of the National Directorate and the Political Committee of the MNRI.

PRESIDENT SAID TO HAVE NEW HEART TROUBLE

PY231547 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 22 Jun 83 p 1

[Text] FOLHA DE SAO PAULO columnist Janio de Freitas, in an exclusive report, says that President Figueiredo is having new signs of heart trouble which have been kept under strict secrecy, and that surgery for a Saphena-bridge implantation is being considered. The surgery being considered -- a certainty rather than a probability -- will require President Figueiredo to take a 3-months leave from the Presidency. The columnist reveals that the president's reaction to the prospect of undergoing surgery, although understandable, is one that will benefit him the least: irritation to the point of not even tolerating the question being brought up by anyone; a refusal to admit that he will undergo surgery.

With this health element, the process of presidential succession will be subjected to a new, influential factor with repercussions on the candidacies and on the coordinating work the president wants to do personally.

More on Condition

PY232358 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 23 Jun 83 p 1

[Text] Only a heart check-up [preceeding word given in English] can determine whether President Figueiredo must undergo surgery to implant a Saphena bridge. On making the report over the phone from Cuiaba last night, Military Household Chief Rubem Ludwig said that asserting right now that the president will undergo heart surgery " is an adverse speculation about the result of a check-up he has not had yet."

Minister Leitao de Abreu, who also traveled to Buiba, stated that "the president is fit and he will decide when he will have the check-up." According to a PDS [Social Democratic Party] congressman, the ministers and advisers are precluded from conveying to Figueiredo serious problems that might upset him. The most delicate issues are discussed with Ministers Rubem Ludwig and Leitao de Abreu.

GOVERNMENT, IMF AT IMPASSE OVER PUBLIC DEFICIT

PY232136 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Spanish 23 Jun 83 p 1

[Excerpt] A Brazilian high-ranking government source has admitted that the Brazilian Government's hardening position in relation to how to measure the public deficit has lead to an impasse in the negotiations with the IMF. The three highest ranking members of the IMF mission are returning to Washington tonight. According to IMF experts, the reason for the return of Eduardo Wiesner, mission chief; Horst Struckmeyer; and Thomas Reichmann is due to the need to consult with IMF Director Jacques de Larosiere. This will delay even more the release of the second portion ($411 million) of the credit to which Brazil is entitled from the IMF, which now will not be released until late August.

A high government source revealed that Brazilian officials hardened their position in order to get a more realistic agreement with the IMF. The source added that the IMF was obliged to negotiate a wider economic objective than it desired; therefore it preferred to obtain "political support" from the IMF directorate.

The cost of living in June will be up from 10 to 11 percent, a historic record according to an advisor of the Special Secretariat for Supply and Prices.

23 JUN SITUATION IN SANTIAGO; STRIKE BEGINS

PY232230 Paris AFP in Spanish 2127 GMT 23 Jun 83

[Text] Santiago, 23 Jun (AFP) -- Activities were carried out normally in Santiago and in the other cities in Chile today and by 1700 [2100 GMT] the majority of the people had not been affected by the national strike called by the transportation sector and the labor unions.

Although cargo trucks and public vehicles were out of circulation early in the morning, the main services such as shops and public offices ran without difficulty.

In the afternoon, peaceful demonstrations against General Augusto Pinochet's regime were held at some university facilities, where students refused to attend classes. However, the possibility of further massive actions later in the day was not dismissed.

At the Catholic University of Valparaiso, 140 km west of Santiago, police used tear gas to disperse a student demonstration. Another sign of violence was the explosion of a bomb which destroyed a handicraft shop in the exclusive Providencia neighborhood, east of Santiago.

However, a strict press censorship imposed on Tuesday prevented the media from disseminating the call for the first indefinite strike against the military regime made by the member unions of the National Workers Command and by the Superior Land Transporation Council to demand the restoration of democracy.

According to reports received in Santiago, the situation was in general also normal in northern cities such as Antofagasta and Arica; in central cities such as Valparaiso and Vina del Mar; and in the cities of Concepcion, Osorno, Temuco andPunta Arenas, located 2,000 km south of Santiago.

Official sources reported that production in the large copper mines, whose workers promoted the first two national protests held against the regime on 11 May and on 14 June, was not affected.

In Rancaqua, 90 km south of Santiago, three union members of the El Teniente mine were arrested for inciting the people to strike. In the isolated coastal city of Pisagua, 2,100 km north of Santiago, the authorities released 31 detainees who had been banished by the government on 30 March.

The Transportation Ministry said that truck circulation was reported normal at the various highway control posts. However, transport leader Adolfo Quinteros remarked that 75 percent of the truck drivers observed the strike. His report coincided with information delivered by regional officials from Concepcion and other southern cities who reported a 50 percent reduction in the activities of cargo vehicles.

Quinteros warned that the press censorship contributed to the creation of a dangerous atmosphere of rumors which could produce violence because situations are beginning to become complicated and tensions are rising. He added: We do not need victims and I am not a hero, but we want the government to recognize that a social pact must be established to end the crisis.

The education minister said that university activities went on without interruptions in the eight Chilean universities intervened by the Military Government since 1973.

But in the University of Chile, hundreds of law, architecture, engineering and journalism students stayed away from their classrooms and held demonstrations against the regime asking for the release of about 20 union leaders arrested after the national protest on 14 June.

Similar demonstrations were held by students of the Catholic University, in the eastern section of Santiago, and in the University of Concepcion, 525 km south of this capital.

The Catholic Church, which for the past few years has been critical of the regime for the human rights situation and the economic problems, will examine the situation during a meeting which the Episcopacy's Permanent Commission will begin today.

On insisting on the urgent need for an opening of dialogue to overcome the present tension, Bishops Conference President Monsignor Jose Manuel Santos said that it is time for words to recover their true meaning.

Situation Appears Normal

PY231516 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1356 GMT 23 Jun 83

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 23 Jun (EFE) -- The situation in Santiago, Chile appeared to be completely normal today, the day the indefinite general strike called by the 1.5-million-strong opposition unions, is to be held. Traffic is as normal, although there are fewer commuters.

The multiunion movement is made up of the government workers union, the oil workers union, the copper workers union, the private sector workers union, and all the federations and unions that are members of the Democratic Union of Workers UDT (of Christian Democratic leaning) and the National Union Coordinating Group, of leftist leaning. The unions also include the 50,000 truck drivers who participated decisively in the fall of the constitutional regime of former President Salvador Allende in 1973.

Today the truck owners confederation, a member of the National Council of Land Transportation, is again heading, together with the National Workers Command of the opposition, the initiative against the military regime of General Augusto Pinochet. However, the difficulties in communication between the leadership that called the general strike and the grassroots may affect the workers' participation in today's day of protest.

For its part, the government has undertaken an offensive, particularly at the court level, by resorting to all legal measures. It is in keeping with these measures that the government arrested nine copper workers union leaders and summoned the most important leaders of the majority of the most important unions supporting the general strike.

While the Catholic Church appealed today to use "good sense," Msgr Alfonso Baeza, the vicar of the workers mission, said that the government should listen to and solve the workers' problems just as it listens to and solves the problems of businessmen.

Leaders from the transportation sector confirmed this morning that unofficial contacts had been held with persons close to the military government to try to seek a solution. However, they added that for the time being these negotiations have not yielded fruitful results.

The Santiago journalist board has reported that after the general strike was called "a repressive censorship was implemented by which we are strictly prohibited from referring to any subject dealing in any way whatsoever with any of the really important events that are presently taking place."

For its part, the Copper Workers Confederation noted today that "the people want democracy, peace, justice, and work."

The Copper Workers Confederation has issued a statement regarding "the government's offensive which has jailed nine of its national leaders and another five El Salvador mine union leaders."

The Copper Workers Confederation notes that "all national Copper Workers leaders are not only legally but legitimately exercising their union posts, despite the fact that nine of them are in jail at the present time."

Strike Incompletely Observed

PY231758 Paris AFP in Spanish 1625 GMT 23 Jun 83

[Text] Santiago, 23 Jun (AFP) -- Ten hours after the indefinite strike was scheduled to begin, the movement does not have the kind of support expected by the leaders of the multiunion group which called it and in which the copper miners and the teamsters are the main forces capable of bringing the country to a complete halt.

Bus, taxicab, and subway car drivers reported normally to work, thus making it possible for people to go to work. The city looks normal. Shops opened their doors as usual, and the public, in smaller numbers in the early hours of this sunny morning, went about their business and got on with their jobs. Over a cup of coffee or while getting their shoes shined, some people talked about the soccer game the Chilean national team will play in Buenos Aires tonight and plans to watch it on television.

Asked about the strike by AFP, many pedestrians just shrugged their shoulders and said "the strike? what strike?" Others, who knew about the call to strike made by the unions, said that they were against it, but denied being Pinochet backers.

Employees of a state bank said that they favor the strike but did not join it for fear of losing their jobs. A visibly irritated employee said "what shocks me is seeing the cowardice of the Chileans in the struggle to get rid of the military dictatorship."

Policemen on the streets were not in greater numbers than on previous days. Only the Carabineros guard around the La Moneda presidential palace was slightly reinforced.

No information was available in Santiago about the support the strike was having in other cities around the country. The media remains silent about the strike, but the arrest of three union delegates at the El Teniente mine -- thus bringing to 26 the number of unionists currently under arrest -- was announced over the radio.

According to what is being passed around by word of mouth, neither the oil workers nor the dock workers are observing the strike. They are working as usual. The grapevine says that after the release of truckers leader Rodolfo Quinteros, U.S. Ambassador James Theberge met with the Workers National Committee which, together with the teamsters, had called the strike. Officially, the U.S. Embassy had no knowledge about such a meeting.

Law students demonstrated peacefully in front of their school, asking for the release of prisoners. The police did not intervene. A few more hours should be allowed to pass before assessing the results of this pressure tactic. It is not impossible that at night the normal atmosphere in Santiago may change: Incidents and attacks against buses could be stage by strikers as they usually do in these circumstances.

Transport Minister's Comments

PY231831 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 23 Jun 83

[Report from Government House by Graciela Contreras]

[Text] Transportation Minister Caupolican Boisset informed President Pinochet this morning that the situation in the transportation sector this morning was 100 percent normal. The minister added that we have a group of trucks transporting cargo that [words indistinct] of imported and exported products.

Dinacos Communique

PY231703 Santiago TERCERA DE LA HORA in Spanish 19 Jun 83 p 22

[Text of Communique on nighttime traffic controls issued by Dinacos on 18 June]

[Text] The Government National Communications Agency [Dinacos] informs the public that beginning on Sunday, 19 June, the nighttime traffic controls now in force will be entrusted to the armed forces and the police. The government deems it necessary to remind the public of this measure, and to reinforce provisions adopted for the security of persons and for social tranquillity. Santiago, 18 June 1983.

Situation in Universities Calm

PY231840 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 23 Jun 83

[Relay from Government House by Graciela Contreras]

[Excerpt] Education Minister Monica Madariaga said today at noon that the situation within the universities is completely normal since she had had no reports about any incidents. She added that no measures have been taken since they were unnecessary. The minister made this statement today at the end of a meeting with President Pinochet.

Union Leader Charged

PY231921 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1904 GMT 23 Jun 83

[Text] Ernol Flores, leader of the government workers union, has been formally indicated. This decision was made by appeals court judge (Carlos Saba). Flores is charged with violating Article 11, Clause 2 of the National Security Law.

Explosion Destroys Shop

PY231922 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT23 Jun 83

[Government House news report by Graciela Contreras]

[Excerpt] A bomb explosion at the Arcilla Artistica shop located on Paseo Las Palmas street in Santiago caused major damage to the shop. The incident took place last night at 2100.

Vandalic Incidents

PY240113 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0056 GMT 24 Jun 83

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 23 Jun (EFE) -- The burning of a bus in the Chilean capital and confrontations between students and authorities occurred today during the general strike that is being carried out throughout the country.

The first reports on the strike that has been called by the Truckers Union and the National Workers' Command indicate that incidents also occurred between students and authorities on the premises of the University of Concepcion, located in Southern Chile.

In Santiago's Maipu neighborhood, Carabineros launched tear gas cannisters at the demonstrators and it has been reported that two students were arrested.

STRIKERS' COMMUNIQUE CITES CONDITIONS FOR TALKS

PY240143 Paris AFP in Spanish 0121 GMT 24 Jun 83

[Text] Santiago, 23 Jun (AFP) -- Truck and transport owners and the unions that today in Chile headed a national strike against the Military Government have shown their willingness for dialogue with the authorities, but they have asked for the implementation of a schedule for a return to democracy, among other conditions. The current strike is indefinite and it will continue tomorrow, Friday.

In a communique, which was released at the end of the first day of the strike, the organizers outline nine conditions. The first condition calls for the release of the union members that have been arrested and the stopping of all court procedures that the government has brought against union leaders. The document also calls for a schedule for the return, as soon as possible, to a system [word indistinct] of democratic participation.

More on Strikers' Demands

PY240247 Paris AFP in Spanish 0219 GMT 24 Jun 83

[Excerpts] Santiago, 23 Jun (AFP) -- The current strike is indefinite and it will continue tomorrow, Friday. In a communique, released at the end of the first day of the strike, the organizers outline nine conditions. The first condition calls for the release of the union members that have been arrested and the stopping of all court procedures that the government has brought against union leaders.

The document also calls for a schedule for the return, as soon as possible, to a real system of democratic participation.

Following are the other seven conditions that the strikers outline in their communique:

The rehiring of all the workers that have been fired from the copper mines due to the strikes that began last week;

The re-establishment of freedom of information and an end to censorship;

The revision of the educational policy for the universities, which have been intervened by the regime since September 1973;

The recognition of the representativity of labor leaders.

A ceasing of all government attempts to establish a parallel labor sector.

An end to the free market econo: ic policy, "which has mainly affected the middle and working class sectors and that it be replaced by a mixed economy system."

The creation of decisionmaking commissions, "which will include the most high ranking Armed Forces' commanders and labor representatives, in order to seek effective solutions to the problems that have been outlined."

Additional Demands, Incidents

PY240310 Paris AFP in Spanish 0144 GMT 24 Jun 83

[Excerpts] Santiago, 23 Jun (AFP) -- Hernol Flores, President of the National Association of Government Employees (ANEF), stated tonight that the censorship imposed on the media by President Augusto Pinochet's regime to prevent the strike was totally successful [sentence as received].

Flores is a member of the National Workers Command (CNT), an organization which called the indefinite strike which began at 0400 GMT today together with the Copper Workers Confederation (CTC) and the land transportation union.

This morning, the police forces continued their efforts arresting three delegates of the El Teniente mine who were inciting to strike and threatening the State Security Law.

Contrary to the attitude taken so far by the copper workers, the union of transport workers was getting ready tonight to resume dialogue with the government and was preparing a 10-point document to be submitted to the National Workers Command (CNT).

The president of the Taxi Drivers Union, (name indistinct), said that the document demands from officials the release of all union leaders under arrest, the stop of witch hunts and the resumption of respectful dialogue with labor unions.

He said: The few times we dealt with the chief of state, we were frightened when we had to say what we thought. We are now tired of always being at attention.

In principle, this document must be presented to the government within the next 48 hours after being approved by all CNT members, which is not going to be easy, said some delegates.

The copper miners, following the instructions of their arrested leader, Rodolfo Seguel, are opposed and not willing to take the first step.

ANEF President Hernol Flores said that "the strike has been a success and it will continue to expand in spite of the fact that the majority of the bus drivers returned to their jobs after receiving proposals from the government.

Transport Minister Caupolican Boisset submitted a report on the transport situation to President Pinochet. The transport situation was reported to be totally normal.

In the afternoon, police dispersed with tear gas a student demonstration at the University of Santiago and destroyed a barricade that had been set up inside the facilities.

Santiago's main square, where people were seated listening to the "Barber of Seville" played by the Orfeo municipal concept group, was full of policemen.

Tolerated by the Police, street vendors were selling knick-knacks, handicraft, street maps and even puppied, which everybody petted but nobody bought, along the main square's side streets. All this gave a surrealistic appearance to the strike, which had caused no serious incidents by 2100 (0100 GMT).

HUMAN RIGHTS LEADER ON RETURN OF EXILES

PY231438 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1218 GMT 23 Jun 83

[Text] Santiago, 23 Jun (EFE) -- Maximo Pacheco, chairman of the Chilean Human Rights Commission, stated today that the recent government measure to authorize the return to the country of 127 political exiles is "positive" though unjust in its methods.

Pacheco, former ambassador to the Soviet Union and former education minister during the government of the late President Eduardo Frei, heads the organization of professional, civilian, and religious personalities who are in charge of analyzing the human rights situation in Chile.

Pachedo added that the number of persons authorized to return to the country so far -- 562 persons -- is insufficient by far, taking into account the bulk of the problem.

Pacheco said that if the figures released by the government itself are accepted -- 10,000 exiles -- at this rate it will take them 10 years to return to the country.

He concluded by saying that according to his own estimates there are 200,000 political exiles "and at this rate it will take 200 years for them to return to Chile."

HAVANA ON CNT CALL FOR INDEFINITE GENERAL STRIKE

FL231637 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1128 GMT 23 Jun 83

[Text] For the first time in 10 years Chile will be practically brought to a standstill today as the Chilean workers will be observing an indefinite general strike to demand the return to democracy and the end of the military rule.

The National Workers Command [CNT], made up of five union organizations encompassing virtually all labor sectors and of the Higher Transportation Council, has confirmed its decision to call the strike.

In a communique released last night in Santiago, the CNT warned that neither the people nor the workers will be responsible for the atmosphere of violence that could be ignited by the authorities' stubborn refusal to heed the people's demands. The CNT urged the people to convey their support for the strike by banging pots and pans every day at 2000.

Despite the measures adopted by the authorities to avert the strike, such as the detention of 20 union leaders and the extension of curfew hours, the strike called last Monday will not be cancelled.

FOREIGN MINISTER SCHWEITZER GIVES INTERVIEW

PY230255 Santiago COSAS in Spanish 16 Jun 83 p 11, 12, 13

[Interview with Chilean Foreign Minister Miguel Alex Schweitzer on 13 June in Santiago by Andre Jouffe]

[Text] [Question] There was talk of a state of alert between Chile and Argentina. In reality, what happened?

[Answer] I believe that the so much talked about tension with Argentina was nothing more than what I call "a discussion between brothers." In other words, I believe that between the Chilean and Argentine people the only thing which does not exist is tension. This is why I talk of neighbors and brothers. Obviously, there are sometimes situations or minor critical periods which do create tense situations, but in the long run I have no doubt that this type of event will end up positively. Specifically speaking, the current border problem under the Papal mediation process is going to end up successfully. This tension caused aroused concern which naturally boiled over when an Argentine helicopter landed in Chilean soil. I hope that this event will also make people understand how a British helicopter was able to land in Chilean soil and that these countries had nothing to do with these incidents. Also the Chilean and Argentine Armed Forces declared that nothing had happened.

[Question] Was the victory of Margaret Thatcher very important for you?

[Answer] From the personal viewpoint, obviously, I could not deny the satisfaction it brought me. During my 3 years as ambassador I was able to appreciate how she acts and I would not deny the sympathy I have for her.

[Question] Did you have any doubt about her victory? We postponed this interview 3 days ago because you and the president were glued to a telex getting the election results as if it was a very important event.

[Answer] I never had any doubt. For me her victory is the proof that the British people have found something they have been seeking for a long time; a leadership with conviction and determination, with a clear and absolute definition. However, her victory is a British internal affair over which I am not to judge.

[Question] Regarding the internal situation, what do you think of the movements searching for a democratic way out for this government and the current Chilean situation?

[Answer] The impression I have is that these are incidental events. I have no doubt that the reactivation of the international campaign against Chile -- as I said a few months ago -- comes in a very critical period. A period which is the 10th anniversary of the government. I believe that this type of event can be applied to any country with governments with more than 10 years in power. This encourages the intensification of the campaign. At the same time, in the domestic area, measures are being implemented to support this campaign. Unfortunately, I believe that the reason for the campaign coincided with aspects related to the current economic crisis we are experiencing. Due to this economic crisis, the government measures do not satisfy the population's short-range wishes as this government has a long-range vision and responsibility.

[Question] Getting away from the subject about movements pressing for transition, what about the project for a government party?

[Answer] The interior minister clearly explained that the movement or support for the president does not respond to the idea of creating a government party. It would be a contradiction for us to say that this is an effort to create a political party at a time when a political recess has been declared. I believe that efforts are being made to channel the massive support for the president's social action and community development programs.

[Question] And is there such massive support?

[Answer] Well, I have been abroad for 3 years and I only saw one demonstration of protest on 11 May. I personally believe that nobody could give a reliable estimate of the people's participation in the protest. I am aware that there was a protest; nobody could deny that. But I cannot say how many people participated in the protest. Neither do I deem it possible to estimate the people's participation in the protest staged on 14 June. But this is no reason to ignore the demonstration. I believe that presidential advisers have paid heed to events of this kind and have sought to analyze the causes underlying them. The president enjoys widespread support, as is confirmed whenever he visits the countryside. In my opinion, rather than analyzing either protest or support, serious efforts should be made to overcome the situation, and thus leave behind this juncture which, despite its predominantly economic nature, has political implications.

[Question] Some weeks ago, former French President Valery Giscard d'Estaing told us that, as a rule, his greatest problem was that nobody would tell him what the people were thinking. Is the same thing happening to General Pinochet?

[Answer] I think that a similar situation is always likely to develop. And I believe that the most serious risk that a ruler may run is ivory tower isolation. I personally believe that the president is aware of facts. He is aware of the people's wishes and he has done his best to interpret them. Unfortunately, economic problems cannot be solved at once.

[Question] But you have seen that despite the announcement of measures favoring those who contracted debts under the readjustment unit [price unit known as unidad de fomento, which is indexed to the consumer price index] system, the campaign for the 14 June protest continued just the same...

[Answer] Yes, because there is a political objective. I believe that these are parallel phenomena, like concentric circles that overlap at a certain moment. Thus, it is very difficult to ascertain whether the problem is of either an economic or political nature. Beyond all doubt, the opposition has taken advantage of the situation, but I am sure that as soon as the crisis is overcome there will be no basis for more protests.

[Question] Some of your friends wonder why someone like you accepted the post of foreign minister in a government that, in the opinion of many people, will not last too long....

[Answer] I will begin with the last part of the question. First, I do not think this will be a short-lived government. I believe that the people really recognize what President Pinochet has done for the country. I have been honored by the president's offer to handle Chile's foreign affairs and I believe that any person who is called upon to cooperate with a government must put aside all sorts of personal interests. I do not believe that President Pinochet will step aside soon because when those who have had doubts realize that they have been playing somebody else's game, they will turn back to the real values and will support President Pinochet's efforts in favor of our country.

[Question] According to HERALD TRIBUNE editorials, President Reagan may be in search for a successor to President Pinochet -- a successor with a better external image -- with a view toward his 1984 electoral campaign. President Reagan may be searching for an ally, but for an ally whose conduct should not give rise to claims of human rights violations and so forth, that may be used to constantly attack the U.S. President.

[Answer] In the first place, we must make clear that the HERALD TRIBUNE, as a newspaper, knows exactly what it wants. It is a mixture of "THE NEW TIMES" and "THE WASHINGTON POST." In general, the U.S. press has clearly described its position toward the Chilean Government, so that I would not pay much attention to the editorial of a U.S. paper. On the other hand, I remember that when I was in Great Britain I asked a top official if he had read a particular editorial. He replied: "I never read editorials because I have my own opinions and I do not have to read a newspaper opinion." I believe that the opinion expressed by a U.S. paper does not necessarily agree with that of the Reagan administration. But the fact that a democratization process in a Central American country could be either good or bad for President Reagan's campaign is something quite different. Here is the evidence: The Carter administration's strident attitude brought about no political changes in either Central or South America.

However, President Reagan's "quiet diplomacy" has produced substantial political modifications in Latin America. What the United States wants, in regard to Chile, is the implementation of the Constitution approved in 1980. There are clear and unequivocal signs that we are moving forward in the institutionalization process. This is the Reagan administration's basic goal.

[Question] How will Chile counteract the worldwide campaign against the country?

[Answer] Unfortunately, the answer is short. We would very much like to counteract it, but it is very difficult to neutralize a campaign which has already been launched and that is already underway. I think facts are more important than any campaign.

[Question] But facts -- as is revealed by photographs and films abroad -- show that police actions have been carried out in towns where handcuffed people are seen walking. There are reports about stadiums, and all of this reminds us of several scenes of the movie "Missing"....

[Answer] Look, rather than on newspaper reports, I rely on facts. And facts reveal that events that were more serious than a demonstration happened on 11 May. Police intervention was necessary because of violent actions that were in turn generated by the strike at night, when order was disrupted and arms were fired. Therefore, it was necessary to implement police control -- which unfortunately had to be massive -- in those places where incidents happened and where a large number of people live. There was no information about any specific group made up of Peter, John or Martin, who fired arms. Police suddenly faced a situation in which arms were being fired and in which two people died. The government implemented a carefully analyzed plan which was not carried out on the evening of 11 May but 2 days later. It was necessary to find the arms. The government's main duty is to maintain public order.

[Question] Due to your recent trip to Cartagena, Colombia, there was talk about Chile's possible return to the Andean Pact. Will the Pact's economic adjustments allow Chile to return to this organization?

[Answer] I was the one who had to say this in Colombia. The reason why Chile left the Andean Pact was very clear. The situation was the following: In view of the economic model being implemented in Chile the tariff surcharges and the treatment of foreign investments gave Chile in the following choice; either adopt the measure that it adopted, or remain in the Andean Pact while violating its regulations and making this known to the other countries working with Chile. It was more honest to make a decision which was politically a disadvantage but which was beneficial for the interest of the institutions of organization. This is why now in Cartagena, when the Andean Pact meets, it adopts measures for the study of any changes in clauses and agreements. All the members of the Andean Pact realize that the mechanisms do not function because they are obstructing the economic models every country has designed for itself. I believe that if those agreements are materialized, Chile would then be in a position to rejoin the pact if clauses compatible with our economic model are implemented.

[Question] Let us go to Europe. What happened with Cheysson and his declarations? Did they end up in nothing?

[Answer] I believe that impasse is definitely finished and overcome.

[Question] Was it a sudden reaction?

[Answer] I believe that what happened with the French foreign minister, Cheysson, is what happened to him on other occasions with other countries, even when I was in England. He is a man of an effusive character.

[Question] What is going to happen with the extradition of Townley requested by Judge Marquandt in Argentina?

[Answer] This is a problem between Argentina and the United States. This is strictly a judicial matter in the hands of the courts of those two countries.

[Question] Are you not afraid that the Argentine civilian government may use Townley against Chile?

[Answer] No, I do not have any apprehensions in this regard.

[Question] None with the expulsion of British citizen John Barnes? Is Great Britain going to accept without a protest the measure adopted by the Chilean Government?

[Answer] Regarding the expulsion of John Barnes from Chile, I believe I am well familiar with what happened. I would like to clarify, once and for all, all the speculation made in this regard. First of all, he never came to the Chilean Embassy in London when I was in charge of the embassy there. When he came to Chile, claiming to be a tourist, we know that he came with a commitment to the organization to which he belongs and which is headed by Sheila Cassidy of the Committee of Solidarity with Chile. When he arrived in Santiago, he got involved in the 11 May events and then the British Embassy did some work to prevent the cancellation of his tourist visa. He then left for Pisaqua. Barnes is a graduate in languages dedicated to the struggle for human rights. Through the British Embassy we notified him that his tourist visa was cancelled and that he had to come to the Interior Ministry. This man resisted this call and submitted an appeal to the Supreme Court. When the court -- without the background of the case -- admitted the appeal, the Interior Ministry provided the background of the case. Barnes then desisted from the appeal. Summoned to go to identify himself, he resisted that notification. The truth is that there is no doubt that Barnes was not a tourist. No tourist would insist in staying in a place where officials have told him that he was not welcome. Only after the appeal was rejected and the British Embassy advised him not to create any problems, Barnes claimed that as he had a ticket for a charter flight, so he could not leave before a certain date. It all ended with the help of the British Embassy. Barnes solved the ticket problem. Basically, Barnes wanted to be expelled from the country.

[Question] You said to a Caracas newspaper that there were only nine or ten thousand who needed to request authorization to return to the country. Do you stand by this figure?

[Answer] There are no more than that.

[Question] The imminence of a civilian government in Argentina will grant the people more access to information on the papal proposal. Do you think it is fair for Chilean to see such a delicate issue being handled behind closed doors without them having any major knowledge of what is taking place?

[Answer] No, absolutely not, I do not think it is unfair. On the contrary, what is more, I believe this is a very useful question. The Chilean Foreign Ministry, which has shown great professionalism in handling our international relations, whose main objective is the search and the achievement of peace, has been in charge of the mediation process. Moreover, the mediation has been handled in a very professional manner by the Foreign Ministry under the direction of the president. I do not think this is unjust for a very basic and elementary reason: If these negotiations are to be successful, the public can only be informed about general details, which is precisely what Chile has done.

[Question] Is it possible that the proposal may be accepted by the Argentine military government but rejected by the civilian government?

[Answer] Unfortunately, we cannot give assurances on what will happen or predict what position will be adopted by Argentina. The only thing we can do, as we have been doing, is to wait patiently but with great determination until the Argentine Government adopts a definitive attitude regarding the mediation process. Fortunately, the mediation process has the support of all Chileans.

[Question] What was your reaction to the appointment of a new UN human rights commission speaker for Chile?

[Answer] Chile's position in this regard has been clearly established: While a discriminatory procedure is applied against Chile, our country cannot be requested to cooperate in this procedure. We cooperate with the United Nations in several activities. This is the only activity in which we are not cooperating. Why is Chile discriminated against by the other 157 countries of the world?

[Question] There are countries in which there have always been human rights violations such as the USSR, but Chile has always had a democratic tradition...

[Answer] No, the problem lies in that Chile is the only country in the world that accepted a special procedure acting in good faith without thinking that it was going to become an institutional issue only applicable to Chile.

[Question] Chile has always boasted about noninterference in the domestic affairs of other countries. In a recent speech, General Pinochet allueded to Peruvian democracy. Was this not an interference in the domestic affairs of another country?

[Answer] That involved a strict interpretation of what was intended. Proof of this is that Peru was not the only country that thought it was alluded to, but Bolivia and Ecuador as well. In general terms, the president was referring to what may happen when certain measures cease to have effect. This is what he was referring to.

[Question] Recently Alejandro Orfila [OAS secretary general] told COSAS that if the OAS secretary general lacks political power, the OAS is nothing more than a farce of a parliament. Do you agree with Mr Orfila in this regard?

[Answer] I was not aware that he made that statement. But I can tell you that the inter-American system in general is experiencing a difficult stage. Proof of this are the efforts at the regional level to solve this situation, and the Central American crisis. I personally believe that we will not solve this problem by granting political power to the OAS secretary general but by putting aside our differences and establishing once and for all a mechanism through which the different foreign ministries and presidencies can meet so as to agree on those points that are common to the region, since I believe that we have many more points in common than those separating us.

FOREIGN MINISTER ON 'VERY CORDIAL' BOLIVIAN TIES

PY201604 Asuncion PATRIA in Spanish 18 Jun 83 p 18

[Communique issued by the Paraguayan Foreign Ministry]

[Text] "The local press has published a statement issued by Bolivian Foreign Minister Marcial Tamayo who has stated that Bolivia and Paraguay maintain very cordial relations. This statement is entirely in keeping with the facts and the Paraguayan foreign minister is quite in agreement with him. Moreover, he reasserts that President Stroessner's government is constantly engaged in strengthening ties with all friendly countries and particularly with neighboring countries. Foreign Minister Tamayo issued this statement in response to a report entitled 'Paraguayan-Bolivian Relations Are Not in Optimum Conditions' written by Sixto Martinez, carried by the EFE News Agency datelined in Asuncion, which was published in the La Paz newspaper PRESENCIA on page 3 of 13 June 1983. In referring to a paragraph of the article entitled 'The Embrace of Two Nations,' that was published by Asuncion newspaper ABC COLOR, Mr Martinez states in his own personal view the article makes insidious and false statements that the Paraguayan Foreign Ministry categorically rejects. It also notes the irresponsibility of the author who, lacking any right, competence or authority, has made an evaluation on the situation on Paraguayan relations with the sister-nation of the Republic of Bolivia."

BRAZILIAN HUMAN RIGHTS GROUP VISITS ASUNCION

PY220227 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 17 Jun 83 p 12

[Text] During a press conference held yesterday, Brazilian politicians, union leaders and university professors, who are visiting the country, said that the purpose of their visit was to find out about the status of political detainees and to express their solidarity with the Paraguayan people. The members of the delegation failed to meet with Interior Minister Sabino A. Montanaro.

The press conference was held at the Commission for Defense of Human Rights. The following people participated in it: Luis A. Novaes, representative of the Sao Paulo Journalists Union [Sindicato de Periodistas de Sao Paulo] and of the National Journalists Federation [Federacion Nacional de Periodistas]; Benedito Cintra, Brazilian Democratic Movement Party (PMDB) deputy from Sao Paulo; Juan Paulo de Oliveira, from the Sao Bernardo and Diadema Metalworkers Union [Sindicato de Trabajadores Metalurgicos de Sao Bernardo y Diadema]; and Paulo Krischke, representative from the Center of Contemporary Culture Studies [Centro de Estudios de Cultura Contemporanea], the Institute of Social, Political and Economic Studies [Instituto de Estudios Sociales, Politicos y Economicos] and from the Latin American Relations Institute of the Catholic University of Sao Paulo [Instituto de Relaciones Latinoamericanas de la Universidad Catolica de Sao Paulo]. [Organization names published in Spanish].

The following people also participated in the press conference: Marcos Aurelio Ribeiro, state deputy and leader of the Labor Party; Pedro Antonio Borges, of the Union of Bank Employees [Sindicato de Bancarios], Alipio Casali, of the Catholic University Professors National Association [Asociacion Nacional de Doncentes de la Universidad Catolica] and Apolinario Rebelo, president of the Brazilian Union of Secondary Students [Union Brasilera de Estudiantes Secundarios]. [Organization names published in Spanish]

The visitors explained that the purpose of their trip was to express their solidarity with the Paraguayan people in their fight to recover democracy and to oppose the continual persecutions against them.

The visitors also said that they tried to meet with Interior Minister Sabino A. Montanaro yesterday. Paulo Krischke said that "we waited for more than an hour, and when we were told to keep on waiting, we decided not to do it." Nevertheless, the visitors left at the secretary's office a note for Minister Montanaro from the Justice and Peace Commission of the Sao Paulo Archbishopric [Comision de Justicia y Paz de la Arguidiocesis de Sao Paulo]. [organization name published in Spanish]

The note conveys "the organization's deep concern" over the recent arrests, which it considers a violation of human rights. The organization also expresses its solidarity with the arrested people and it praises the uprightness of the Paraguayan Data Bank. The note concludes by asking for the release of the arrested people and that their right to a defense be guaranteed.

The union leaders pointed to the groundless accusations made by the newspaper PATRIA against the recently arrested people and they expressed their concern over the continuation of the accusations, which, they said, might prompt further arrests. They also said that they were able to visit the women arrested recently at the women's jail, but that they failed to visit the men arrested at the national penitentiary because they could not get the corresponding authorization.

DEFENSE COUNSEL IN SECURITY LAW CASE ARRESTED

PY232152 Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish 22 Jun 83 p 28

[Text] Edgar Ruben Stanley, duty judge of the 9th Criminal Court, has ordered the preventive custody of Diego Bertolucci, attorney of the Church Committee and counsel for the defense of some 20 persons prosecuted for alleged violations of Law 209, on defense of public peace and freedom of the people.

According to the judge's interlocutory decree, Bertolucci had "removed two books, regarded as subversive by the police, during the physical examination carried out by Judge Ayala Matto in the apartment where Gustavo Codas Friedman was staying the latter charged with violating Law 209, depriving His Honor in doing so of evidence leading to the resolution of the case being investigated."

According to the interlocutory decree, the Church Committee attorney availed himself of a very special instance to retrieve the above said books and concealed them under his jacket, in a suspicious and incriminating attitude, for which reason he is being prosecuted for the removal of books and open obstruction of the judicial proceedings.

It must be pointed out that Attorney-at-law Diego Bertolucci has been recently acting as counsel for the defense of several persons charged with violation of the repressive laws, which seek to guard the state's security. Judge Stanley issued a warrant for the police to arrest Bertolucci, to send him to the Tacumbu Penitentiary where he will be allowed to communicate freely, at the disposal of the courts.

As the basis of the warrant for arrest, the judge named as witnesses of the books concealment Police Inspector Cantero, ABC COLOR journailst Franco, lawyer Diaz Perez, and other officials who took part in the inspection. Diego Bertolucci who is also a professor of the Catholic University Law School must be interrogated in the next few days.

TERRORIST CAPTURED NEAR U.S. ENVOY'S RESIDENCE

PY232103 Paris AFP in Spanish 2038 GMT 23 Jun 83

[Text] Lima, 23 Jun (AFP) -- Police headquarters reported today that an individual that tried to throw an explosive device into the grounds of the residence of Frank Ortiz, U.S. ambassador to Peru, was arrested by the police before he could carry out the action.

It has been learned that an individual, apparently a beggar, who was walking near the residence located on Arequipa Avenue, took a packet out of his pants pocket and tried to light it. A policeman who had observed the act, approached the individual, who ran away. After a chase of several blocks, during which the terrorist was able to slightly wound the policeman, the individual was captured with the help of a student of the Civil Guard Officers School.

The terrorist was identified as Raul Cordova Rojas, 33. He was found in the possession of three sticks of dynamite and a detonator.

The aborted attack took place at the same time three other bombs exploded in various areas of Lima.

CIVILIAN, SHINING PATH CASUALTIES NOTED IN PASCO

PY221539 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0325 GMT 22 Jun 83

[Text] Lima, 21 Jun (EFE) -- Shining Path guerrillas have killed six persons, while policemen killed two members of the Maoist organization in Pasco Department, a radio station in this capital reported today. The radio station said that the information was provided by the Civil Guard Command of Cerro de Pasco, capital of the department, 315 kilometers northeast of Lima.

Justice of the Peace Pablo Cardenas, Lieutenant Governor of Yacan Isidoro Cardenas, and school director of Paucar Eladio Lavado were among those killed by the guerrillas. The other three were peasants Juan Escandon, Leovigildo Gomez, and Bertha Vallejos.

The two terrorists were shot down by the police during a clash with a group of subversives on the Paucar plateau, according to the radio report, which added that the other terrorists fled.

The radio also reported that the police had seized arms, explosives, subversive propaganda material, and a vehicle that had been stolen by Shining Path members.

Havana Report

PA230441 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 23 Jun 83

[Text] The newspaper LA PRENSA has reported that at least 17 people have died in the Peruvian Departments of Pasco and Ayacucho during attacks by the armed group Shining Path and repressive actions by the police and Army. The Peruvian newspaper said that in Yacan, Pasco Department, attackers killed 6 persons, including Justice of the Peace (Pablo Cardenas) and Lieutenant Governor Isidoro Cardenas.

The newspapers in Marca reported that the police and Army have killed 9 people in the towns of Macara, Anahuanca, and Pucahuasi in Ayacucho Department.

A series of disagreements among important government figures led to a recent protest by Peruvian Attorney General Miguel Cavero concerning the establishment of a dialogue with the armed group Shining Path to end the violence in the country's southern Andrean Region.

NICARAGUANS TO STUDY NATIONAL ELECTORAL LAW

PY231837 Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 23 Jun 83

[Text] A Nicaraguan Government delegation has arrived in Lima for the purpose of studying the Peruvian electoral law with the intention of applying it in Nicaraguan elections. The delegation is headed by Deputy Commander Rafael Solis, secretary general of the State Council, and is composed of members of the Socialist Party, the Christian Social Party, and a female representative of the Nicaraguan Women's Association. Solis emphatically stated that he trusted the Sandinist forces would defeat the U.S.-backed forces commanded by Eden Pastora and denied that his government has received 80 MIG planes from Cuba, but admitted the presence of advisers on the use of armament received from Cuba.

The delegation, which has a busy agenda in our country, previously visited Mexico, Costa Rica, Venezuela, and Colombia.

EXPRESO ASKS USSR ENVOY TO REPUDIATE VIOLENCE

PY211958 Lima EXPRESO in Spanish 13 Jun 83 p 16

[Editorial: "Peru and the USSR"]

[Text] Anatoliy Filatov, the new Soviet ambassador, has just arrived in Lima. He replaces Leonid Kuzmin, who was here for over 3 years. At a time in which terrorism is leaving a sequel of blood and destruction, it is only proper for the new Soviet representative to explain some issues.

The first of these should be the repudiation of the sorrowful actions that are being perpetrated by the Shining Path, at not just at the official and diplomatic levels. Let us suggest that the Soviet representative exert any "influence" he might have on certain parties and/or institutions that strictly follow the Marxist doctrine by adopting a clear and definitive position. Although it is true that some Marxists have shyly condemned the bloody incidents, it is also true that whenever possible they have discredited and criticized the democratic regime that the Peruvian people have elected in perfectly honest elections.

Peru maintains excellent relations with the USSR. Therefore, just as we respect and accept their political system and their government leaders' decisions, we believe it only fair that we receive a similar treatment, nothing more nor less. Therefore, we welcome the Soviet representative to Peru. But in doing so, we trust that by strengthening cultural, technical and economic ties with his country, he will not try to interfere in Peruvian domestic affairs. Unfortunately, there have been many recent cases in this regard which have only harmed relations between nations and peoples. We hope that Ambassador Filatov's diplomatic experience and personal qualities will help to maintain good relations between our nations and not exacerbate ill feelings.

UNIFIED SOCIALIST PARTY PUBLISHES COMMUNIQUE

PA230347 Mexico City UNOMASUNO in Spanish 9 Jun 83 p 28

[Communique issued by the Unified Socialist Party of Mexico in Mexico City on 8 June, published as a paid advertisement]

[Excerpts] The capitalist system, and particularly the development formula imposed on the country by the government and by Big Mexican and U.S. capitalists, is to blame for the Mexican economic crisis.

The government and the business sector are carrying out an economic policy that reflects a reactionary vision of this country. The standard of living of the workers and peasants is rapidly declining as a consequence of this policy. The government and the business sector refuse to raise salaries, arguing that this would lead to higher unemployment and more inflation. That is how they sidestep the deep structural causes of the crisis, and they do not see that the decline in mass consumption has already become one of the causes behind a decline in productivity.

This policy seeks to protect the large capitalist companies, guaranteeing the conditions for their recovery at the expense of the sacrifice of an immense majority of workers.

There is, however, a different overall vision of this country. The socialist proposals and alternatives -- not only those of the Unified Socialist Party of Mexico [PSUM], but also those of other organizations and factions -- want to confront the crisis while defending both the interests of the workers and the Mexican nation. In order to curb unemployment and the decline in production, we must combat the structural causes; nationalize all food industry monopolies and the large commercial franchises and middlemen that are sources of inflation; grant greater resources to the rural sector and expropriate irrigated lands and cattle farms that are now in the hands of the bourgeoisie, in order to produce food for the people on them; draw up a tax reform that will increase taxes for the rich and do away with the offensive policy of taxes on general goods; increase government spending directed toward production and social welfare; grant a sizable salary increase and implement an adjustable salary scale and guaranteed prices for the peasants' products; lower bank interests rates and strengthen exchange controls; declare a moratorium on the foreign debt until interest rates are lowered, payment dates are extended, and the prices of our chief export products are increased; and nationalize foreign trade. These basic measures and many others derived from them make up a great national alternative -- the socialists' alternative for the times in which we are living.

The policy of government and business promotes an economic slowdown as a supposed anti-inflationary measure. In a general way, that is the same policy Mr Reagan has been carrying out in the United States. If such a practice has caused serious economic and social upheavals in that country, in Mexico it is becoming catastrophic for the workers, because they lack unemployment insurance and other benefits.

In the face of this political attitude, a workers' movement that focuses its interest on salary increases has emerged. Their demand is absolutely legitimate. It is also proof of the growing popular rejection of the behavior of government and private enterprise.

The calls for strikes to obtain emergency salary increases, the strikes that have been held, and the protests and mobilizations prove that a change of the current economic policy is already a necessity for the large popular masses, particularly for the working class and employees.

The PSUM supports those struggles and will continue to offer its solidarity.

The present movement in favor of a salary increase has been hampered by a lack of cohesion and unified actions. Without a doubt, this is tangible proof of a lack of participation by union members, and the lack of a well-defined, democratic, and militant labor policy on the part of the country's large unions and their leaders. That is why the salary conflict has brought to the surface the need for in-depth changes within the Mexican union movement, beginning with their democratization and the raising of the consciousness of the working class.

This is a time of struggle, and based on this, the time for the unification of the workers. Mexico City, 8 June 1983. For Democracy and Socialism.

The Political Commission of the Unified Socialist Party of Mexico's Central Committee: Pablo Gomez, secretary of the Central Committee; Salvador Castaneda O'Connor; Rolando Cordera Campos; Ramon Danzos Palomino; Ivan Garcia Solis; Alejandro Gascon Mercado; Antonio Gershenson; Sabino Hernandez Tellez; Roberto Jaramillo Flores; Edmundo Jardon Arzate; Arnoldo Martinez Verdugo; Eduardo Montes Manzano; Pablo Pascual Moncayo; Marcos Leonel Posadas; Gilberto Rincon Gallardo; Manuel Stephens Garcia; Gerardo Unzueta Lorenzana; Miguel Angel Velasco; Arturo Whaley.

REGIME BACKS SAN JOSE ACCORD IN CARACAS TALKS

FL231524 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0155 GMT 23 Jun 83

[Text] Mexico City, 22 Jun (NOTIMEX) -- Mexico and Venezuela have billed Central American countries for $1.5 billion in oil, placing 30 percent of that total on medium-term credit, the Secretariat of Energy, Mines, and Semistatal Industry (SEMIP) announced today.

SEMIP Secretary Francisco Labastida Ochoa received instructions from President Miguel de la Madrid to support the revolution [as received] of the San Jose Accord, considering the importance of its benefits to Central American and Caribbean countries, SEMIP said.

The Mexican Government, SEMIP added, considers that the San Jose Accord represents one of the best examples of solidary cooperation among developing countries, and is an expression of the principles advocated by the countries' foreign policy aimed at achieving the goals of economic progress in a climate of peace.

Labastida Ochoa traveled to Caracas today [as received] to meet with his counterpart Humberto Calderon Berti to discuss bilateral and multilateral affairs related with oil and the situation and prospects of the world oil market.

SEMIP said that the position on the issues to be discussed by Labastida carries the consensus of the Mexican secretaries of foreign relations and finance and public credit and the director generals of Pemex and the Bank of Mexico.

The report on progress made by the Mexican and Venezuelan ministers will be submitted for the consideration of the presidents of the two countries in order to work out governmental agreements, SEMIP said.

OFFICIAL SAYS U.S. COMPANIES PRESSURE PEMEX

FL231400 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1800 GMT 22 Jun 83

[Text] Mexico City, 22 Jun (NOTIMEX) -- Mexico is being pressured, at the trade and financial level, by U.S. companies to increase its oil exports, but the country will not yield or fail to fulfill its commitments. Thus stated Aaron Dichter Portolarek, director of energy policy for the Secretariat of Energy, Mines, and Parastatal Industry, who added that if we yielded [to that pressure] we would upset the delicate balance in the world oil market.

Therefore, he assured the local press, Mexico will stick to its decision of not exporting more than 50 percent of its oil sales to any single country. Mexico currently exports 1.5 million barrels of oil per day according to the level set for that product.

The official referred to the pressure when asked about some of the demands levied by some U.S. companies against Pemex in the context that perhaps they were trying to take advantage of the situation Mexico has been experiencing.

However, Dichter Portolarek considered that these pressures had already stopped. He stressed that these were part of generalized pressures and not because Pemex had fallen behind in any of its payments to U.S. companies.

COFFEE GROWERS OCCUPY COFFEE INSTITUTE IN JALAPA

PA171716 Paris AFP in Spanish 1946 GMT 16 Jun 83

[Text] Jalapa, Mexico, 16 Jun (AFP) -- Today some 2,000 Mexican coffee growers occupied the offices of the Mexican Coffee Institute in Jalapa. They demanded that the price for cherry-type coffee be set at 35 pesos ($2.33) per kg.

The occupants peacefully prevented some 1,000 employees of this state institution from entering the building and explained that the current price of 21 pesos is not even enough to cover production costs, because the cost of supplies has increased by 114 percent and fertilizers have gone up 180 precent.

PEACE GROUP URGES SELF-DETERMINATION FOR C.A.

PA172204 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 17 Jun 83

[Text] Mexico City -- As in Vietnam, the formula of bombing everything to hell will fail in Central America, the president of the Mexican Peace Movement [Movimiento Mexicano por la Paz -- MOMPAZ], Carlos Zapata Vela, stated as he announced the movement's participation in the World Assembly for Peace and Life to he held by representatives of more than 100 countries in Prague.

Zapata Vela said that at his international forum the Mexican delegation will express the need to defend the damaged principle of respect for the Central American people's right to self-determination, and will also seek international support for the Contadora Group efforts.

SENATOR FAVORS 'DOWNFALL' OF PINOCHET'S REGIME

FL211939 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0010 GMT 21 Jun 83

[Text] Mexico City, 20 Jun (NOTIMEX) -- Alfonso Segbe, member of the Mexican Senate Foreign Relations Committee, has advocated the downfall of the dictatorship led by Augusto Pinochet in Chile.

Segbe, who is also vice president of the Permanent Conference of Latin American Political Parties (COPPPAL) has said that a prompt democratization of the Chilean society and its return to civilized life are desirable.

Segbe pointed to the need for the Chilean democratic process to culminate as soon as possible so that the various trends of thought and ideology could freely express their ideas in keeping with the provisions of the UN Charter.

Commenting on the recent events that took place in Chile, Segbe said Pinochet has radicalized his position as a brutal dictator and noted that COPPPAL is openly in favor of restoring democracy which has been disrupted in Chile by a military regime which has been condemned by the international community.

The Pinochet regime, which overthrew the constitutional government of Salvador Allende Gossens 10 years ago, has become notorious for its unscrupulos repression of workers who are seeking a better standard of living, Segbe said.

BRIEFS

NEW AMBASSADORS -- Mexico City, 22 Jun (NOTIMEX) -- The ambassadors of Trinidad and Tobago, Guinea Bissau and Senegal agreed in their opinions that the countries of the Third World are confident of the Mexican Government's good will in the peaceful solution of the Central American conflict. After presenting their credentials to President Miguel de la Madrid, the new ambassadors, James O'Neill of Trinidad and Tobago, Inacio Semedo of Guinea Bissau and Andourhmane [not further identified] of Senegal expressed their support of the Contadora Group's efforts in the Central American area. The ambassador of Senegal said that there cannot be peace in the world without international economic justice, and that the political will of the nations of the First World is not sufficient to solve Third World problems. He added that the interdependence among countries ought to be translated into fair international trade without putting the fundamental causes of man and his liberty into question. [Text] [Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2125 GMT 22 Jun 83 FL]

WAGE HIKES -- Mexico City, 21 Jun (NOTIMEX) -- With the granting of wage hikes of from 15 to 18 percent, strikes were averted in six soft drink companies. Meanwhile, workers at eight universities in the country held a meeting to demand emergency wage increases. [Excerpt] [Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2239 GMT 22 Jun 83 FL]

COSTA RICA

MONGE TALKS WITH AMBASSADORS IN W. EUROPE

PA231555 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 23 Jun 83

[Text] President Monge asked the Costa Rican ambassadors to the courts, republics, and international organizations of Western Europe yesterday to remain united in defending our democratic institutions. You are on the frontline of our defense against communism's world offensive, which is attempting to damage and discredit Costa Rica's democracy, Monge said.

The press in the Netherlands, land of Erasmus, Van Gogh, and [soccer player] Cruyff, was very interested in the unusual meeting held in the ancient (Amstel) Hotel, located across from one of the beautiful canals of this beautiful city [not further identified].

President Monge reviewed the current Central American crisis thoroughly and stressed Costa Rica's neutrality in the conflicts that are currently affecting neighboring nations. Neutrality is the Costa Rican people's policy in response to the wars that are currently bleeding fraternal peoples, Monge said. He also stressed the solidarity expressed by the entire world's labor movement with Costa Rica's democratic process and he recalled his participation in the founding of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions, whose 13th world congress he will address tomorrow, Friday. The organization represents some 200 million workers from all over the world.

EL SALVADOR

FMLN REBELS DESTROY LAS GUARAS BRIDGE

PA232223 Paris AFP in Spanish 2156 GMT 23 Jun 83

[Text] San Salvador, 22 Jun [date as received] (AFP) -- Official sources reported that following a staggering attack during which at least 25 soldiers and paramilitary men were killed, the Salvadoran guerrillas today dynamited the Las Guaras Bridge on the road to Suchitoto, some 30 km north of San Salvador.

According to the report, since early this morning the guerrillas have controlled the road to Suchitoto; this has prevented the confirmation of the number of casualties. Nevertheless, it is believed that at least 9 national guardsmen and 15 paramilitary men [figures as received] as well as some civilians residing near the bridge were killed during the attack.

This was the second attack on Las Guaras in the past few months. It began Wednesday at midnight; some 3 hours later the bridge was destroyed. Today the FMLN announced a new general offensive and warned that it has even decided to paralyze transportation all over the country "to fight alone against the enemy."

FMLN REPORTS LATEST GOVERNMENT CASUALTIES

PA230511 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 0100 GMT 23 Jun 83

[Text] In the past month our armed people have achieved uninterrupted victories over their oppressors. The "In the Face of Reagan's Aggression, El Salvador Will Win" political military campaign has resulted in the firm decision of all Salvadorans to defend our sovereignty and independence, and has promoted a repudiation of the warmongering policy of the U.S. Administration.

For the past month our rifles have been heard throughout the rebel territory of Agustin Farabundo Marti. In less than a month we have inflicted more than 741 dead and wounded on the enemy. We have captured 147 troops of the puppet regime. We have seized 238 weapons from the enemy Army after heavy fighting that heralds the dawn of a liberated land.

The FMLN issues a call to all government soldiers so that we can march together in the struggle against the fascist high command, our enemy. All young officers, noncommissioned officers, and soldiers have a place in the people's army. The weapons that are aimed at your own relatives today can be turned to kill the fascist officers who are forcing you to commit crimes against the Salvadoran people.

Soldiers, noncommissioned officers, and young officers: Your masters are in the government Army, your brothers are in the FMLN! United to fight to final victory! Revolution or death, we will win!

Radio Venceremos Report

PA231502 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 23 Jun 83

[Text] In reply to the increased imperialist aggression, our people have achieved significant victories over the dictatorship in over a month of actions. In that time we have seized 221 rifles and 14 support weapons, including mortars, grenade-launchers and machineguns; we have taken 139 prisoners of war, most of whom have already been released; and we downed an A-37 plane, damaged 2 helicopter gunships and destroyed several military transport vehicles.

In these actions, which fall within our military campaign, our forces have inflicted hundreds of casualties on the ranks of the dictatorship, including several [as heard] U.S. advisers who are directing the genocidal war against the Salvadoran people. Our forces have destroyed three important communicatinos centers, seriously affecting the military and state communications system in the eastern part of the country. We have also carried out five important acts of sabotage on bridges over the Coastal and Pan-american Highways.

Each new military campaign brings us nearer to victory, because in the face of Reagan's aggression, El Salvador will win!

GUATEMALA

'CIVIC MOVEMENT' URGES UNITY TO RESOLVE 'CRISIS'

PA232238 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 23 Jun 83

[Text] We have received the following document from a group that calls itself the Guatemalan Civic Movement [Movimiento Civico Guatemalteco]. The document is entitled "Civic Letter":

Civic letter to the government of the republic, the Guatemalan Army, the political institutions, and the citizenry in general: In the name of a large group of Guatemalans, we wish to comply with the patriotic request to call to the attention of the people of this country the problems that are seriously affecting us.

We are not politicians, but simply citizens concerned with the need to end the tragedly that has affected Guatemala for the past several years. We are determined to search for solutions to achieve political stability; social, economic, and financial development; and to regain the prestige of and respect for our homeland.

It is unfortunate to have to admit the great division that separates the various national sectors and the ever-increasing harm being done to internal relations among all sectors of the population as well as between the people and the government. This causes even greater concern because it coincides with the existing threat to our national security and the deep crisis affecting us all, a crisis which can lead Guatemala to disaster at any time.

The citizens joyfully received the news that the change of government would finally end the political and economic corruption that reigned in Guatemala. It was expected that the entire population was ready to cooperate with the government to achieve economic, social, and political recovery in the shortest possible time. In deference to justice, we must list some of the most important achievements of the ruling military government:

1. The initiation of the process to fight and eliminate political and administrative corruption;

2. The creation of a supreme electoral tribunal. Since the tribunal includes capable, patriotic, and honest individuals, it may finally achieve the desired democratic opening necessary to our total development; and

3. The great step toward security and respect for human rights and toward an end to the wave of terror that has plagued our entire territory.

Nevertheless, circumstances have led us to situations of extreme danger to the existence of the state itself. This should not be allowed to happen to the Guatemalan people, who have at all times demonstrated their dedication to democracy. Therefore, we are making an all-out appeal to common sense. We call for the reunification of the Guatemalan people so that the problems now affecting us may be solved with a true patriotic spirit, taking into account only the nation's interests. In this respect, the dialogue started between the government and the various sectors must be maintained. The citizens are deeply concerned over the following problems:

1. The serious economic situation;

2. The political instability that stems from the lack of a constitutional order. It is inconceivable that with the documents at hand and under the honorable and independent control of the supreme electoral tribunal we should not be able to hold free and honest elections;

3. The pressing issue of the fiscal and electoral laws, which are highly important to the future of Guatemala and should be prepared with the necessary participation of the legitimate representatives of the people; and

4. The Army's link to the political and administrative activity, constituting a serious risk to the discipline and hierarchy of the armed institution, thus jeopardizing even more the stability and cohesion of our social organization.

Because of all this, we clearly and firmly appeal to all public, private, and political institutions as well as to the people in general to unite in a patriotic movement that will include the following objectives:

1. National concord, peace and tranquillity throughout the country, and political stability under a democratic system;

2. Immediate attention to the serious economic problems threatening the country and to ways to solve them through definite policies;

3. The convoking and holding of elections this year for a national constituent assembly whose deputies should carry out, preferably ad honorem, their important patriotic functions;

4. Empowering the supreme electoral tribunal to establish the conditions for the election of the constituent assembly in order to fully guarantee the purity of the elections, the participation of all sectors, and the qualifications required to be nominated for an electoral post;

5. Assigning to the constituent assembly the following functions:

A) Issuing the constitution of the republic;

B) Approving, disapproving, and modifying the decree-laws issued by the executive branch;

C) Giving prior approval to the fiscal and electoral laws which the executive branch may propose;

D) Freely choosing and nominating the citizen who is to hold the post of president of the republic during the transition period toward the nation's constitutionality, which should not exceed 18 months; and

E) Swearing in those who may be elected under the new constitution.

We invite all citizens, institutions, political parties, and other committees to participate in this patriotic campaign for national unity. We are convinced that it is an exceptional opportunity to regain our patriotic values and thus calmly await the verdict of history.

[Issued] Guatemala City, June 1983.

[Signed] Guatemalan Civic Movement. Directors: (Carlos Enrique Peralta), (Fraterno Vila Petorek), (Francisco Luna Ruiz), (Victor Salomon Pinto Yanez), (Oscar de Leon Aragon).

BRIEFS

REFUGEE SITUATION -- More than 130,000 Guatemalan refugees live in 85 camps near the Mexican border. They arrive ailing from a number of diseases, especially malaria. The incidence of malaria has increased by 40 percent in this area of Chiapas. They are also dying of hunger because bad weather prevents food supplies from reaching them. [Summary] [Mexico City NOVEDADES in Spanish 13 Jun 83 pp 1, 16 PA]

HONDURAS

PAZ BARNICA SPEAKS ON C. AMERICA, NICARAGUA

PA231828 Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish 0130 GMT 23 Jun 83

["Address to the Honduran citizens" by Foreign Secretary Dr Edgardo Paz Barnica, place not given -- live or recorded]

[Text] Countrymen: I have come before the Honduran people on instructions from Dr Roberto Suazo Cordova, the president of the republic, to keep you abreast of the most recent incidents at the border between Honduras and Nicaragua and to explain the position held by our government.

For the last 5 years, Central America has been in mourning. Grave domestic conflicts in neighboring countries have resulted in about 100,000 dead and nearly 500,000 displaced by internal struggles. Amid this turmoil and suffering, our country is intent on developing and strengthing a democratic process that has just begun.

We cannot remain indifferent to developments in Nicaragua, El Salvador, Costa Rica, and Guatemala, because to a large extent our own future will depend on the way in which the fate of those fraternal nations is determined. The national government has clearly defined goals in connection with the current Central American crisis. We are striving to secure peace, because we understand that there is a direct relationship between the maintenance of international and domestic peace and a suitable climate within which our democratic institutions can develop and our people's social and economic development can prosper.

As our fundamental goal, we pursue the reestablishment of security in the Central American region, which is being disrupted today by the Nicaraguan Government's interventionist activity in other countries of the region, by its exaggerated and worrisome buildup in offensive weapons, and by the increasing presence of extraregional and extracontinental forces on its territory.

Without dismay, we seek to strengthen and develop our own democracy and to support all efforts required, within the framework of our international responsibilities, to ensure that democratization processes are either initiated or developed in the area's other countries. These democratization processes would involve the reconciliation of those peoples who are currently torn by fratricidal struggles, and would lead to the participation of the Central American peoples in the shaping of their own political, economic, and social destiny as the best and most suitable way of achieving a climate of harmony and domestic and international concord.

We have charged before the world that the current Nicaraguan regime poses a threat to peace, democracy, and security in Central America. We have insistently protested the repeated violations of our sovereignty and our institutions by that regime. We have presented evidence of this destabilizing activity. We have also made countless efforts to reach regional agreements that would end the climate of violence, the insecurity, and the despotic treatment of the Central American peoples.

The world has gradually become convinced that the Nicaraguan revolution was betrayed. The world has gradually become convinced that the regime currently prevailing in Nicaragua pursues an interventionist policy. And the world is becoming aware that it is urgent to put an end to so much bitterness, disappointment, and offense, by means of civilized dialogue and negotiations.

Under these circumstances, when the Nicaraguan regime is losing ground in the international arena; when it is becoming discredited and must face the irate responses of its own people, who want to live under a regime characterized by justice and freedom; the Nicaraguan Government is desperately seeking to transfer its own domestic problem, its own civil war, to the international arena, attacking its neighboring countries in the most brutal way.

It is no longer an issue of clandestine arms traffic. It is no longer the more of less covert support for insurgent groups in other countries. It is no longer an issue of providing training and financing to these groups. It is no longer the campaign of international slander launched against Honduras.

The issue at hand involves direct attacks on our territory, intended to elicit a reaction from our government that would lead to a war between the two states, so that Nicaragua could claim once again that it is the victim of an international attack. In this way it would provoke intervention by international organizations or other governments. This would stabilize the current Nicaraguan regime, through international support and an appeal for internal unity, and would keep the Nicaraguans from disagreeing with the form of government that has been imposed by force on a nation that, like any other, deserves to live in justice, freedom, and democracy.

During a recent trip to Japan, a Latin American diplomat told me that there was a dictatorship in Nicaragua during the days of the Somaza dynasty, but today there are nine dictators in Nicaragua.

Yesterday, two U.S. journalists were brutally killed by Sandinist People's Army troops. The two journalists had been driving on the road between Las Trojes and Cifuentes, in Paraiso Department, Honduran territory. The Nicaraguan regime, which acts indiscriminately against Honduras' civilian population, could not even imagine the international repercussions of so terrible and brutal an action against the lives of those riding in that car.

Honduran citizen Jose Edgar Rodriguez Herrera was seriously injured, becoming yet another victim of the constant Nicaraguan aggression. The deaths of the two U.S. journalists, killed while innocently going about their professional duties, demonstrate to the world the scope of the tragedy that we Hondurans have been suffering at the hands of the interventionist and totalitarian regime ensconced in fraternal Nicaragua.

The Honduran Government deeply regrets the deaths of the two U.S. citizens and wishes to tell the Honduran people and the international community that, despite the brutality of this action and the Nicaraguan Government's continued violation of all rules of peaceful coexistence, our government -- the democratic and constitutional Honduran Government, I repeat -- will act both serenely and calmly, but with the firmness required to defend our sovereignty and our institutions.

The Honduran Government also wishes, at this critical moment, to stress its unswerving determination to continue working for and contributing to the achievement of a stable and lasting regional peace. It will also act unhesitantly to strengthen our domestic security and our defensive capacity against the repeated attacks, provocations, and threats from the regime that currently prevails in Nicaragua.

Our government also announces to all Hondurans that our national unity has been strengthened by the recent appearances of the chief of the armed forces and the foreign secretary at the National Congress. Also, as of today, a series of consultations has been initiated with the members of the honorable diplomatic corps accredited in our country and with the most representative sectors of Honduran society, so that they may be kept abreast of the current international situation and of the need to remain firmly united in the face of external aggression.

We love peace, but with the same strength with which we work toward a just and honorable regional understanding we will loyally defend this Honduran homeland, bequeathed to us in freedom by Francisco Morazan, Jose Cecilio del Valle, and Ramon Rosas. We Hondurans must all work to keep it free, sovereign, and independent.

Highly esteemed countrymen: All Hondurans, without distinction of any kind, concerned only with Honduras' sacred interests, must join wills, efforts, and ideals toward the achievement of regional peace, based on understanding dialogue, honroable negotiation, the guarantee of human rights, and mutual respect among states. This is because foreign policy, when responsibly and coherently understood, must reflect and be an extension of domestic policy.

In the international arena, a policy promoting peace must be the continuation of authentic domestic peace. We will continue to work to achieve the peace for which we yearn so much, but we will also continue to strengthen our defense, which is a primary concern of every state, because without domestic security it is not possible to implement lasting actions to achieve peaceful coexistence, or to strengthen the pluralistic democratic institutions that express the people's honest will.

We will continue to work with renewed zeal toward a peaceful coexistence that will make us proud in the domestic arena and bring prestige to us in the international arena, because, by conviction, we reject war, which causes turmoil and anguish and which torments the collective conscience. We will thus be able to say that, as a well-known thinker used to contend, in our Honduras, in this homeland of our daily toil, there is not much more spirit than uncultivated land [sentence as heard]. Thank you very much.

Alvarez Questioned on Relations

PA231908 Tegucigalpa Televisora Hondurena in Spanish 0130 GMT 23 Jun 83

[Questions asked by several unidentified journalists]

[Text] On arriving at the air base this morning, Armed Forces Chief General Gustavo Alvarez Martinez said that the death of the two newsmen under such circumstances is extremely grave, not only because they are U.S. citizens but because [words indistinct] they have been killed in an act reflecting the highest degree of provocation. Alvarez said that, faced with such an incident, the Honduran Government must adopt severe measures, but that he has to consult President Roberto Suazo Cordova on the situation.

[Begin recording] [Question indistinct]

[Alvarez] Honduras has been very patient and has been trying not to provoke any incidents, but this really takes the cake. Now there are no guarantees for anyone; on our own territory [words indistinct]. I am going to have to check with the president to see what steps will be taken, because Honduras has a right to legitimate defense. As you can see, two foreign newsmen were carrying out their duty to report the news, as they had a right to do, and they have become victims of a criminal action.

[Question] Could this bring the two countries closer to war?

[Alvarez] No, I am not thinking of a war, but this is undoubtedly going to worsen Honduran-Nicaraguan relations. We protest their provocations on a daily basis. That is to say, they have been [word indistinct] our own territory and will not allow our people to move freely in our own territory. Unfortunately, the road runs parallel to the border and is pretty close to it. This probably caused the murder of these two foreign newsmen.

We have to take some action, [words indistinct] to prevent incidents of this sort. We must consult with the president, but Honduras has to do something. We are expected to protect every inch of our territory.

[Question] Is the incident more serious because they were U.S. citizens?

[Alvarez] Perhaps it is more serious from the political viewpoint, but otherwise it is just as serious as any other incident, because they are human beings and all human beings rate equally, whether they are Honduran or any other nationality. From the political viewpoint, however, for them, for the Nicaraguans, it will have more serious political repercussions.

[Question] They say the Americans are to blame because they are providing support to the Hondurans.

[Alvarez] They were not U.S. soldiers. They were reporters who had a job to do, and, just as in any democratic country, any tourist who obeys Honduran laws has the right to go wherever he wants. This is what they were doing.

[Question] Do you plan to meet with the president today?

[Alvarez] Yes, [words indistinct] to the presidency to discuss this situation. As I said before, we are sending them daily protests. We have wanted to avoid the trap of an escalation, by which they could justify an attack on Honduras. This has prompted us to be cautious, but caution does not equate with fear.

we have enough courage and determination to defend our territory, and I believe we are reaching the end of our rope. We have to take some sort of action. I don't know what will be done, [words indistinct]. There are many options, many ways of doing things, and this will have to be discussed with the president, because it is he who must make the decision.

[Question indistinct]

[Alvarez] I have not taken any steps. I repeat that we have not taken any steps [words indistinct] to keep from incurring an escalation they could use to say, or to justify a charge, that we are subjecting Nicaragua to aggression. We have forces there, we have more than a company, this is true. But they have 3,000 men there.

[Question] There is no doubt that Nicaraguan weapons killed those newsmen?

[Alvarez] There is no doubt; there are witnesses to the fact. One of them, in fact, lost a leg and an eye. He was riding in the car. He was the driver the newsmen had hired to take them to the area. He, more than anyone else, is a witness to the source of the attack by an RPG -- an anti-tank weapon -- against a civilian car, which it (?demolished).

[Question] Do you have any idea why they did this?

[Alvarez] They are provoking Honduras, in the sense that no one may move across that sector. And that is Honduran territory, as you know.

[Question indistinct]

[Alvarez] No, (words indistinct] Honduras. The counterrevolutionaries are in Nicaraguan territory, so that is Nicaragua's problem, not ours.

[Question] There are no counterrevolutionaries on Honduran territory?

[Alvarez] No, [words indistinct].

[Question indistinct]

[Alvarez] In any event, Madam, if the two countries maintain relations, they should tell us where they are, and ask us for cooperation [words indistinct] they should not violate [words indistinct]. In other places on our territory, Sandinists have entered to rob, steal, and kidnap our people. We have denounced this, but our troops have never entered Nicaraguan territory and we have never fired on Nicaraguan territory. [words indistinct]. There are proper ways of resolving things when two countries maintain relations.

Who is carrying out provocations against our territory? Who will not let our people pass? If a bus, a passenger bus goes by, it is strafed. Are they counterrevolutionaries? They are not counterrevolutionaries.

[Question] General, will this incident cause a break in Nicaraguan-Honduran relations?

[Alvarez] I don't handle foreign policy. [end recording]

EDITORIAL CALLS FOR SETTLEMENT OF BORDER DISPUTE

PA232019 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1145 GMT 23 Jun 83

[Editorial: "Honduras Softens Stance on Border Demarcation With El Salvador"]

[Excerpts] Suddenly, but perfectly aware of what he was doing, our foreign minister dropped a bomb that shook the Honduran people. The Salvadoran Government is using delaying tactics to defer the demarcation of its border with Honduras. What is surprising, however, is the position taken by the Honduran Government: It has softened its stance in the face of this Salvadoran procrastination, intended to prevent an immediate demarcation of the border with Honduras.

Honduras is currently supporting the Salvadoran Government by offering its territory for the installation of a base where Salvadoran troops will be trained. Amazingly -- we are not sure whether this is because of incompetence or because of the anti-communist frenzy -- the Honduran Government has not taken advantage of this situation to accomplish a goal that Hondurans have sought for so many years: the demarcation of the only border that still requires delimitation, the result of El Salvador's stubborness.

We are offering our territory to El Salvador to train Salvadoran soldiers. However, when it comes to recognizing our rights, El Salvador is not willing to yield an inch. Why don't they yield? Because Salvadoran politicians don't want to be called traitors by future generations. Their position is reasonable, as they don't want to be judged for giving away their territory. Yet the same possibility doesn't bother our politicians and government leaders a bit.

Our territory has been offered for the installation of a military base to train Salvadoran soldiers, but in exchange for this we didn't even have the guts to challenge the Salvadorans to a just give-and-take exchange: I will give you my territory to train your Army, but you must be willing to delimit our boundaries.

Peace is necessary, but loyalty to our fatherland comes first. At this moment, possibly over 3 million Hondurans agree with us: If, under the current circumstances, we have not been able to get El Salvador's consent to delimit our borders, we might as well forget it completely.

MILITARY ACCUSED OF SUPPORTING SALVADORAN ARMY

PA240019 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 23 Jun 83

[Text] (Miguel Angel Gutierrez), member of the Coordinating Committee for the Support of the Honduran People, has reported in Mexico City that some 2,000 Honduran soldiers are participating in the Salvadoran Army's counterinsurgency actions. He said that the United States is using Honduras as spearhead against the Central American nations and urged the international organizations for the defense of human rights to start actions of solidarity with the patriots in the region.

BRIEFS

NEW HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE -- San Pedro Sula -- The Committee for the Defense of Human Rights in Cortes Department [Comite para la Defensa de Derechos Humanos para el Departamento de Cortes -- CODEH-CORTES] was established in a meeting on 9 June. The objective of the committee is to preserve the country's social peace by permanently watching over respect for human rights in Cortes Department. The chairman of the committee is Miguel Angel Pavon. [Summary] [San Pedro Sula TIEMPO in Spanish 17 Jun 83 p 8 PA]

NICARAGUA

D'ESCOTO QUESTIONS VERSION OF NEWSMEN'S DEATHS

PA231433 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 23 Jun 83

[Text] The Honduran Government will have to answer several burning questions to clarify the real circumstances in which U.S. citizens Richard Cross and Dial Torgersen were killed. Foreign Minister Father Miguel D'Escoto Brockman has asked several questions that Suazo Cordova's government will have to answer if it does not wish to be publicly called a liar. D'Escoto Brockman's questions disclose that Honduras' charge against the Sandinist People's Army is a gross plot, intended solely to create a more aggressive climate against Nicaragua.

Here are Father D'Escoto questions, posed before national and foreign newsmen, which the Honduran Government must answer:

[Begin D'Escoto recording] I have here a list of questions which we feel the Honduran Government is obliged to answer. Once it has done so, then we and the rest of the world will have a clearer idea of what truly happened, of hor the U.S. journalists were really killed.

Here is the first question: What was the purpose of claiming that TIME magazine journalist William McWhirter was dead?

Was there a plan to lead the three journalists -- Dial Torgersen, of THE LOS ANGELES TIMES; Richard Cross, of U.S. NEWS AND WORLD REPORT; and McWhirter -- into a mortal trap? Was it McWhirter's unscheduled departure from Honduras on the previous day that kept him from falling victim to a conspiracy to kill all three of them?

Torgersen had written several reports favorable to the Nicaraguan revolution and was a serious and aggressive journalist. Cross was identified with our process and, as I have already told you, in 1982 he and [Nicaraguan Culture minister] Ernesto Cardenal published a book with his photographs. The book is entitled "Nicaragua, the Liberation War." These circumstances and antecedents were known to both the Somozist guardsmen and the agents of the broad CIA network in Honduras. In their minds, objective journalists are dangerous communists.

According to the Cable News Network, McWhirter has said that he cannot, quote, understand the confusion surrounding these developments, end quote. It seems to us that the Honduran Government has the key to this confusion. Foreign Secretary Paz Barnica said at a news conference on the evening of 21 June -- this is stated in the official note sent to our Foreign Ministry -- that three foreign newsmen had been killed and that it was not possible to recover their bodies. So there is an extra body, that of a white man. We know now that he is not McWhirter, but they said that there were three bodies. So, there is an extra body, that of a white man. According to official reports, the three bodies belonged to white men. So, whose is the third body? Who is the white man who also died in the alleged action? Who was driving the journalists' vehicle? Who authorized them to use a road to which only the Somozist counterrevolutionary forces and the Honduran Army have access? When did they leave Tegucigalpa and how many hours elapsed until their death? Who was accompanying them? Where were they before? Where did they really die?

Foreign Secretary Paz Barnica asserts that a truck that was moving behind them had to return to Trojes when the alleged attack occurred. But an eyewitness claims that he was the first to arrive at the site and that the bodies were already there. These reports are contradictory. What happened to that eyewitness? Where are the alleged riders of the truck? How could a truck full of men back out of a narrow rural road under heavy rifle fire?

According to an AFP report datelined 21 June in Tegucigalpa, a counterrevolutionary leader and his escort died in this incident. There has been talk of other casualties as well. What does all of this mean? How can the Honduran Government prove that the journalists died at the announced site and at the announced hour? Why did supposedly over 6 hours go by before the bodies of these journalists were recovered from a point in their own territory which is under the military control of the Honduran Army and the counter-revolution? At whom was the heavy rifle fire that prevented the recovery of the bodies for so many hours aimed?

Foreign Secretary Paz Barnica claims that the firing came only from Nicaraguan territory and that no one answered the fire from Honduras. This unbelievable situation never took place, and everything suggests that the bodies were not there either, though they may have been placed there later. How can the Honduran Government prove that the journalists died in an attack with antitank rockets? How could international journalists be taken through a highly dangerous area without any protection by the Honduran Army, using their private vehicle along the border, when that road, which is close to Nicaraguan territory, has always been exposed to heavy artillery and rifle fire against Nicaragua from Honduran territory? All of this is totally unbelievable.

Last May a group of U.S. journalists was ambushed in Nicaraguan territory by counter-revolutionary forces from Honduras. This took place in the area of Jalapa. They came out unharmed, thanks to the heroic defense of their lives by Nicaraguan troops, two of whom died in this incident. Why didn't the Honduran Army offer any kind of protection to these journalists? Whey did it leave them to their own devices? These are questions that we feel it is absolutely essential the Honduran authorities answer. Only when they have been answered will we be able to learn the truth behind the regrettable incident in which the two U.S. journalists died. [end recording]

BAYARDO ARCE MEETS WITH CHERNENKO IN MOSCOW

PA231946 Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 23 Jun 83

[Text] Commander Bayardo Arce Castano, coordinator of the Political Commission of the FSLN National Directorate, met in Moscow with Konstantin Chernenko, CPSU Central Committee Politburo Member and Secretary. Several topics involving the established relations between the CPSU and the FSLN were discussed at the meeting.

NEIGHBORHOOD EVENT STRESSES USSR FRIENDSHIP

PA231341 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 23 Jun 83

[Text] Friendship and fraternity characterized an event held a short while ago by residents of the Soviet Union neighborhood of Managua and USSR representatives. The event included songs, folk dances and social dramas. Special guests included (Anatoliy Borlov), deputy chairman of the Council of Deputies [as heard] and several members of the Vietnam Communist Party Central Committee.

NICARAGUA, LESOTHO ESTABLISH DIPLOMATIC TIES

PA231513 Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 16 Jun 83 p 6

[Excerpt] United Nations (ASN) -- In a simple but significant act, the Governments of Nicaragua and Lesotho established diplomatic relations here yesterday. The representatives of the two countries at the United Nations Javier Chamorro and Pseliso Thamae, [as published; FBIS records list Molefi A. Ntlhoki] respectively, exchanged the necessary documents of protocol. Nicaragua's foreign policy is characterized by universality in its diplomatic relationships, particularly with Third World countries.

MILITARY COMMANDER REPORTS REBEL CASUALTIES

PA232140 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 23 Jun 83

[Text] During the current month, 183 counterrevolutionaries have been killed in heavy fighting in the Jalapa area of Nueva Segovia Department on the border with Honduras. Commander Manuel Salvatierra, deputy chief of Nicaragua's 1st Military Region, summarized the actions taken, particularly in El Porvenir, a state-owned farm. He commented following the recovery of El Porvenir on Tuesday. This town had been completely evacuated because of the danger which its proximity to Honduran territory implies. However, the situation is under control and everything is calm there, he reported.

Salvatierra warned that the invaders are reorganizing themselves in Honduran territory and are getting ready to change tactics since their attempts to occupy Jalapa and then Teotecacinte failed. Regarding Teotecacinte, he noted that the attackers positioned themselves only 1,000 meters away and that they were supported by Honduran artillery which included, among other weapons, Israeli-made mortars.

The direct and growing participantion of the Honduran Army, he warned, increased the threat of an open war. Salvatierra stressed that before the June combat the former Somozist guardsmen regrouped themselves in Honduran territory while the Honduran Army occupied every border position. The Sandinist People's Army was waiting for the counterrevolutionaries to try to advance on the Las Pampas area, 8 km from Jalapa, and repelled their attack. The Somozists suffered many casualties and fled to Honduras, Salvatierra reported.

PASTORA ANNOUNCES CEASE-FIRE ON SOUTHERN FRONT

PA231630 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1609 GMT 23 Jun 83

[By special correspondent Jeannine Camps]

[Text] The Nicaraguan mountains, 23 Jun (ACAN-EFE) -- After 54 days of military activity, Eden Pastora has put an end to the war on Nicaragua's so-called southern front. Commander Cero, hero of the Sandinist revolution who took up arms against his former comrades on 1 May to "rescue the revolution, freedoms and democracy for Nicaragua," has stopped fighting.

Commander Cero, chief of the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance [Arde] forces, explained to his men a few hours ago that the fighting could not go on without money and military equipment. After talking on the radio with opposition leader Alfonso Robelo, Commander Cero told this special correspondent that "the war is over."

"My men are starving, we have no rifles and we have only a little over $3,000 left." "War cannot be waged like that. We cannot maintain the insurrection of the peasants, who are asking us for weapons and equipment to fight the communist regime of the nine commanders."

This decision, according to Pastora, was "one of the most difficult of my life," and was made only after 15 days of debates with the other Arde leaders. The lack of funds and of aid from the democratic world and obstruction from the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), in his own words, are the cause of "the desperate situation facing us."

Minutes later some 2,100 armed men who make up Arde's southern front listened to Pastora give an emotional 13-minute message on the radio in which he said: "With pain in our souls, we must call a halt, in order to find further resources."

Commander Cero described the situation affecting his organization and told his men that the tired and hungry companere have had to inject plasma and some have been forced to give up, affected by gangrene and without any chance of obtaining medical treatment." Pastora told his men that "this situation is out of our hands, because our political and military calculations were in error."

"We had hoped that democratic governments, institutions and parties would help us more," the Nicaraguan leader added.

But after 54 days of struggle in the mountains of southern Nicaragua, Commander Pastora, with only $3,000 left in his hands, has had to face his troops and to explain how untenable the situation really is. Commander Cero is currently talking to his militiamen -- 2,100 armed men and the others who comprise the southern front's rear guard -- trying to find a solution to his situation. It is not yet known where these men will be relocated or what system of withdrawal the Arde guerrilla columns will employ.

Arde Spokesman on 'Strategic Pause'

PA240258 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1824 GMT 23 Jun 83

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 23 Jun (ACAN-EFE) -- A spokesman for the Nicaraguan Democratic Revolutionary Alliance (Arde) said today in Tegucigalpa, Honduras, that the announced withdrawal of his movement and Commander Eden Pastora from the struggle being waged against the communist dictatorship in southern Nicaragua is only a strategic pause."

"I wish to reiterate that this is not a withdrawal but a strategic pause to evaluate the situation," the spokesman stressed. The spokesman, who insisted on remaining anonymous, said that "the strategic pause" was due to "a moral and patriotic obligation, considering that thousands of peasants have joined our struggle and the aid offered to Arde by democratic nations is inconsistent."

"We do not withdraw, because our revolutionary principles compel us to continue struggling for the liberty of our people," Arde's spokesman stressed. He pointed out that democratic governments' lack of support to the movement represents an "endorsement of the presence of international communism in Central America and the American continent."

"For the time being we cannot afford the luxury of saying how long this pause in our struggle will last, because we want to make a responsible evaluation and it might last a long time or a short time," the spokesman explained. The spokesman does not "believe that the temporary withdrawal of Arde will allow the political and military strengthening of the Nicaraguan regime because we believe that it is other democracies which have in fact allowed the strengthening of that Army and government, because they have abandoned us." The Arde spokesman refrained from evaluating the efficiency of the movement's political commission, headed by Alfonso Robelo, former member of the Nicaraguan Junta of National Reconstruction. The commission was in charge of presenting Arde's position abroad in order to attract support.

Voice of Sandino Announcement

PA240301 (Clandestine) Voice of Sandino in Spanish to Nicaragua 0000 GMT 24 Jun 83

[Excerpt] Attention, Nicaraguan people: The Democratic Revolutionary Alliance, Arde, has made a pause in its struggle to catalyze the peasant people's insurrection. Nicaraguan brothers, we are Sandinists. We are not up for sale and we never surrender.

Thousands of peasants have joined our armed forces; therefore we need the aid of democratic nations on the American continent. A peasant people's insurrection is taking place in Nicaragua and our historical duty is to catalyze it. Nicaraguan brothers, hear the transcendental message from Commander Eden Pastora, announcing a pause in our struggle. Nicaraguan brothers, we have not withdrawn. The traitorous collective is condemned to death.

Pastora's Message to Forces

PA240354 (Clandestine) Voice of Sandino in Spanish to Nicaragua 0000 GMT 24 Jun 83

[Message from Commander Eden Pastora to the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance, Arde, armed forces; delivered "last night" in the mountains of southern Nicaragua -- recorded]

[Text] [Unidentified announcer] Commander Eden Pastora Gomez, commander in chief of the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance, Arde, armed forces, taking into consideration that a peasant's popular insurrection is taking place in Nicaragua and in view of the fact that the democratic countries of the American continent have not given enough support to the struggle we are waging to eradicate international communism from our homeland, and taking into account that thousands of peasants are joining our struggle, has announced that Arde's revolutionary directorate formed by Eden Pastora, Alfonso Robelo, and Brooklyn Rivera has reached the conclusion that it is necessary to halt our struggle for liberation to evaluate our situation and later begin a liberation war against the totalitarian and murderous government of the nine members of the treasonous collective. Here is the message that Commander Eden Pastora delivered last night in the mountains of Nicaragua before the heroic troops that form Arde's revolutionary forces:

[Begin relay] [Pastora] Companeros, fighters of Arde's revolutionary forces, companeros and militants of those forces that followed the Sandinist struggle of those troops made up by peasants and workers who accompanied General Sandino, companeros, Nicaraguan patriots:

We are going to talk with our hearts in our hands; we are going to talk face to face with our people at this difficult moment. We are going to do this with the responsibility of a revolutionary and with the maturity of a revolutionary. We are going to talk with the maturity of a man, of a leader who does not succumb to acts of desperation, no matter how difficult the situation.

Along the road, and we have covered much terrain to liberate our people against Somozism yesterday and against communism and occupation forces made up by foreign troops today -- Cubans, Bulgarians, Germans, Soviets, and Chileans -- along this road we have had to pause to meditate, study, and analyze the situation. At this moment we are going to talk about the delicate situation. Activities such as the one on the delta failed because we lacked logistical support. Situations such as X-1 and PPH [no expansion given] have reached such extremes that we have received companeros physically and literally naked, companeros who were dying of hunger and who had to be fed intravenously.

The companeros on the Atlantic front, north of Bluefields, are being attacked by the Cuban intervention forces -- a superior force -- and are facing desperate conditions because logistically we have not been able to help satisfy their most basic needs. In Azucena where, as in all these other places, a virtual insurrection took place, we were not able to satisfy the expectations generated by this insurrection of 200 armed men -- a people's answer to this peasant's insurrection in Azucena. Of the 700 men who came to look for weapons, 300 were murdered and 200 imprisoned; only 200 are among the few we have been able to arm. The situation in Azucena is that of more than 200 burned farms, murdered children, and our inability to give the insurrection a proper answer. We are wasting ourselves in that area. These cases are only a few of a number which would be too long to mention.

Today, with sorrow in our hearts, we must pause along the road and mediate deeply on this situation. We must seek economic resources to satisfy the demands and expectations of a peasant uprising and a military development which we have not been able to achieve. This situation is beyond our reach because we made a mistake in our political and military calculations. We believed in and counted on democratic governments, organizations, parties, and institutions, as well as on democratic men and friends. We thought they would give us the support that would enable us to develop, aside from the demands and expectations of a peasant uprising, a war.

Today, with pragmatism, objectivity, and a revolutionary's responsibility, we have to announce and ask all 2,100 combatants struggling in the mountains in southern Nicaragua, searching for peace, freedom, and democracy, to understand these fraternal words as a call to a cease-fire. We are going to stop the war until we can find logistical support, medications, food, footwear, towels, clothes, and other things needed to develop an organized war, side by side with the insurrection, as the Nicaraguan people demand of us in order to achieve freedom and democracy.

These are painful moments and accepting them is hard for the fighting spirit and for revolutionary discipline and awareness. These are difficult times for all those people living in the jails, being murdered by the murderous [words indistinct] of the Cubans, Bulgarians, Germans, and the totalitarian communists. These are difficult moments, when all people expect a sacrifice from us. Knowing that we are willing to reach a maximum sacrifice but with revolutionary maturity, we have to admit that the logistic support is not sufficient to develop this war.

Companeros combatants, war might be [word indistinct]. We, the leaders, are reorganizing; we are studying and analyzing it to see what we can do. If we can do nothing, we'll tell you so with our traditional honesty. There are superior and evil ultrarightist forces which played other cards; the cards of the past. They are mummies that were buried in history's dung heap. They are not the fruit of a popular, revolutionary, and Sandinist history.

Here is a truth, companeros: The path which U.S. foreign policy is taking today is the same path it took when Cuba [changes thought] when the Cuban revolution succeeded. For this reason, now 23 years later, the Cuban revolution regrets having lost its democracy and freedom.

We fear that Stalinist communism will become enthroned forever in Nicaragua, the heart of the continent, and in Central America. We fear that our children will moan in jails and torturechambers because we were prevented by superior, diabolical force from making and developing a war according to the demands of a peasant insurrection.

Companeros, wait for a more specific instructions. The work is difficult. Companeros, let's accept this sad reality with a revolutionary maturity: After 52 days of war we are starving. After 52 days of war, when we showed the world and our people the willingness; the spirit of sacrifice; the high fighting morale; the desire for freedom, justice, and democracy; we can't do it.

We must stop along the road. We must review all the work done and seek new resources to see if we can wage a war in line with the demands of a peasant insurrection. We will continue talking tomorrow, brothers. This moment is hard and difficult. We hope everybody understands. This is not an act of irresponsibility. We would be irresponsible if we led our people to believe we could provide food, medicine, clothing, shoes, and all kinds of logistical equipment. We can't do it. There are powerful forces which are stopping our advance so that we march behind the FDN [Nicaraguan Democratic Forces], legalize the war [as heard], and so that we will not be the first to reach Managua. They don't want us to be the ones to decide what Nicaragua's situation will be.

This is a crude and bitter reality. Therefore, with maturity and responsibility we are stopping the war. [Words indistinct] to dismantle all this means spending thousands and thousands of dollars and we are going to sell gold crosses, rings, television sets, cars, everything we have so that we can, in an organized way, put our lives together again and return to a normal situation. We will do this if the democratic world ignores this desperate call, this SOS from a people who are wailing in jails and dying in mountains, from a people whose country is occupied by foreign forces.

Be confident that we are spending 24 hours a day thinking, studying, and analyzing a way to face this painful problem of the Nicaraguans who are going through this difficult moment. Over.

[Unidentified male voice] We understand commander. We don't have any material resources, right? But we have the most important things: our convictions, our love for the people who have suffered so much. We have reason on our side. We trust God. We trust that the most reactionary elements of imperialism, those obscure forces you mentioned, will realize that what Arde did in a short time was not done by the mummies in 2, 3, or 5 years. In other words, they have done nothing. What we did has kept the people's hopes alive. I know that in one way or another we'll move on. We know that our revolutionary spirit will cause us to prevail. We know that we neither sell ourselves nor surrender. Therefore, we are with you. Free fatherland or death, Commander. Over.

[Pastora] Thank you, companero. We've spoken with everybody about our companeros' spirit of sacrifice and the love they have for our people. We've discussed the trials of this love and this sacfice. We have discussed the 52 days of struggle with our companeros and they have understood this. The democratic forces, at the government, party, and individual level, are fearful and cowardly. They are ashamed to help us in the face of the ultraleftist forces. We are fighting international communism, and the democratic forces adopted a fearful and cowardly attitude.

The moment is difficult, brothers. We have asked God to help us many times. We have repeatedly sought the aid of the peoples, but unfortunately all they can offer is [word indistinct]. We have been offering our blood.

Napoleon Bonaparte, the greatest strategist of all times, said that war cannot be made with lead but with money. This is a reality we must accept. The situation is difficult, brothers. We'll see what happens tomorrow. We are going to see how we can handle this situation tomorrow, the day after, and next week.

Please, stop all military actions. It is not worth it for one more Nicaraguan to die. We've reached the point where we cannot profit from shedding another single drop of blood, we can't profit from a single drop of blood. The Nicaraguan people cannot profit from a single drop of blood shed for the sake of their freedom, democracy, and peace, ever, regardless of which side is shedding the blood.

Our leaders took a mature and revolutionary stand. This matter has been thoroughly discussed with Robelo and Brooklyn Rivera, and, on this end, with your Commander Eden Pastora who, just like yesterday, today, and always, will be on our people's side at difficult moments. I cannot say mature [as heard] moments because we have never had good and pleasant moments. The struggle has been hard in the past 23 years. We must expect it to be hard in the future. Over.

[Unidentified male voice] You are right, Commander. We trust in what you said. [Word indistinct] is something we fell. We feel the pain of the companeros who were left behind in many areas of the Atlantic. We knew them. Therefore, we can't negotiate the blood of these companeros under any circumstances as has been (?the intention of imperialists). We trust you and we know that when you order us to go to war, it means just that. Unfortunately, it is the only way to go, as you mentioned in your message. However, as you said, we cannot act hastily and irresponsibly, allowing others to benefit from the blood shed by our companeros. They died for the Sandinist cause. [Words indistinct] we saw the misery and limitations they have. Therefore, we will wait for new orders, Commander, and always with a very high morale. [Words indistinct] Free fatherland or death always! Over.

[Pastora] Okay, brother. Free fatherland or death! [end relay]

[Announcer] People of Nicaragua: After listening to this very important message, Voice of Sandino, a member of the Sandinist Revolutionary Front's information system, explains to the Nicaraguan people and the free peoples of the world that we have not withdrawn from the struggle and that at this moment, more than ever, our morale is firm and high. Our struggle, on the side of the Nicaraguan people, will be continued because we view it as a firm and revolutionary commitment.

In an official communique, Arde will explain to the Nicaraguan people and the entire world that we will continue to fight and that we have not retreated. We've only come to a halt to evaluate the situation of the thousands of peasants who are fighting in our armed forces. Today, more than ever, our liberation is closer!

Madrid Interviews Pastora

LD241002 Madrid Domestic Service in Spanish 0600 GMT 24 Jun 83

[Text] Last night all the international news agencies announced that Commander Cero, Eden Pastora, had abandoned the armed struggle against the present Managua regime. Spanish radio and television reporters tried to get in touch with the controversial Commander Cero to confirm the news. Finally, Eden Pastora, who is in the mountains with his guerrillas, was located by our television colleague Santiago Gonzalez, who at about 0500 this morning recorded the following exclusive interview. In the interview Commander Cero accuses the international news agencies of manipulation and says that his struggle will not end until he wins or dies.

[Begin recording] [Gonzalez] Eden Pastora, Commander Cero, the international news agencies report in Spain today that you are going to abandon the armed struggle. What truth is there to this?

[Pastora] The international news agencies have been manipulating everything (?since March). This is not the case. The situation is difficult, and we are calling a halt, but at no time are we withdrawing from the struggle.

[Gonzalez] You began the war against the Sandinist government junta in Nicaragua 54 days ago and are now abandoning it. Why are you abandoning the guerrilla war?

[Pastora] At no time are we abandoning the struggle. What is happening is that we have not received the support of the democratic forces, and we have no money. We are calling a cease-fire, but at no time are we abandoning the struggle.

[Gonzalez] Commander Cero, you have just drawn up a communique appealing to the people of Nicaragua and the peoples of the world. Could you tell us what is contained in the communique?

[Pastora] The Revolutionary Democratic Alliance, Arde, [word indistinct] the liberation of the people of Nicaragua on the basis of a mainly peasant popular rebellion and [words indistinct] in their struggle against the Marxist-Leninist dictatorship of the Sandinist National Liberation Front.

[Gonzalez] What support does Commander Cero have from the Nicaraguan people?

[Pastora] There is total support.

[Gonzalez] Do the Nicaraguan people support the guerrilla war of Eden Pastora?

[Pastora] Certainly. We began the war on 1 May with 600 or 700 men. At the end of May we had 1,100 or 1,200 men, and we now have 2,200 armed men and 2,000 men without arms in the camps. We have to turn comrades away because we do not have arms [words indistinct] to respond to this [word indistinct] to peasant rebellion.

[Gonzalez] How far will Eden Pastor's struggle against the Sandinist regime in Nicaragua go?

[Pastora] Until we achieve victory or die; until Nicaragua is democratic, free [words indistinct]. [end recording]

HAVANA CITES D'ESCOTO ON HONDURAN CHARGES

PA230432 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 23 Jun 83

[Text] Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto has termed as indescribable cynicism the Honduran charges against the Sandinist government for the death of two U.S. journalists and a third unidentified person in Honduran territory. He said there exist contradictions in the official statements. D'Escoto deplored the death of Richard Cross and Dial Torgerson, whose favorable views of the Sandinist revolution were not ignored by the former Somozist Guards and the CIA agents in Honduras, who consider objective journalists to be dangerous communists.

Referring to the contradictions in the official Honduran communiques, D'Escoto pointed out that one of them stated that the journalists died as a consequence of an antitank grenade attack 3 and 1/2 km inside the border. He stated that it is illogical to think that this kind of weapon has such a long range.

He added that the road where the attack allegedly took place is permanently controlled by the Honduran Army and former Somozist Guards, so it is difficult to understand why journalists were authorized to transit such a dangerous zone without a military escort and protection.

D'Escoto stressed that the official Honduran contradictions imply that the U.S. journalists fell into a trap. He challenged the Honduran Government to clarify the questions that have arisen and to make public the testimonies of the first people to see the bodies.

Referring to a possible reason for this attack, D'Escoto said that Honduras might be seeking a pretext to launch large-scale attacks against Nicaragua, and that the U.S. Government wants the support of public opinion in order to carry out its immoral warmongering policy toward Central America.

Clashes, Casualties Reported

PA232257 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 23 Jun 83

[Text] Commander Manuel Salvatierra, deputy chief of the Nicaraguan 1st Military Region, has reported that 183 counterrevolutionaries have died during the fierce clashes that took place this week in the Jalapa area of Nueva Segovia Department, near the Honduran border.

Salvatierra warned that the invaders are reorganizing themselves in Honduran territory and are preparing to change their tactics, because they have failed in their attempts to occupy Jalapa and Teotecacinte. The Sandinist People's Army forced a group of some 100 former Somozist Guards to flee to Honduras. The group had entered Nicaragua through the (Las Pampas) sector in Nueva Segovia Department.

News reports reveal that the Sandinist government will lodge an official protest to the U.S. Government for the presence of a U.S. war frigate in Nicaraguan territorial waters. The frigate was sighted 20 miles southwest of Punta Cosiguina in the Gulf of Fonseca.

CENTRAL COMMITTEE ANNOUNCES DORTICOS' SUICIDE

FL241024 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0935 GMT 24 Jun 83

[Text] The Communist Party of Cuba [PCC] Central Committee fulfills the painful duty of having to inform the people and the party that Comrade Osvaldo Dorticos Torrado, member of the Politburo, took his life with one shot at approximately 1600 [2000 GMT] while alone in his residence.

For many years, Comrade Dorticos, an outstanding revolutionary and a man of great historic merit and service to the homeland, had been suffering great physical pain -- which had become more acute and unbearable each day -- caused by a serious ailment of the spinal column; and over the added painful loss of his companion, Maria Calidad Molina, in recent months.

Apparently the torture of the physical pain and the profound depression caused by the loss of his wife turned out to be stronger than the fierce will and the extraordinary stoicism with which Comrade Dorticos always faced adversity and suffering. No longer himself, he was driven to the dramatic decision to end his valuable and fruitful life.

The late Comrade Dorticos is being attended to at the Rivero Funeral Home in Calzada and K [Street]. He will be buried in the FAR Mausoleum today, Friday, at 1600 [2000 GMT] [Signed] The PCC Central Committee.

CASTRO COMMENTS ON NATIONAL DEFENSE EXERCISES

FL231156 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 23 Jun 83

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro said in Matanzas that, according to the established plan, the national defense exercises, maneuvers, and practice have been progressing very well. He made this remark during a working visit to Matanzas where he learned some of the details regarding the defense procedures in that area.

The first secretary of the party said that the exercises underway, which begin their 4th day today, are of great value as a school where one gains indispensable experience to assess situations. He said that certainly an exercise should not be evaluated while it is still underway, but one is able to gather judgement factors and later, after it is over, a critical examination is made to determine how everything developed. Where were the deficiencies? Where did something go astray? What needs to be fixed? We can gain experience and knowledge which are indispensible in a special situation.

Referring to the participation of the people, Fidel said: Whenever it was needed, the people, as always, have given their all. But it has been a well-organized exercise since it has not required the direct participation of the population except in some specific places such as Havana. In Havana, he pointed out, the people have participated through their contribution in determining the procedures to be followed in the blackout of cities.

The people continue their normal work and activities, Fidel stressed. We have sought, as much as possible, not to interrupt normal activities. On a very small scale and based on their experience, we have worked with a part of the population.

Participation in the evaluation along with the commander in chief were Esteban Lazo, first secretary of the party in Matanzas; Faustino Beato, president of the Provincial Assembly of the People's Government; political leaders of the state, the MINFAR [Ministry of the FAR], and the MININ [Ministry of the Interior]. During his stay in Matanzas, our Commander in Chief Fidel Castro was applauded by the people who, upon learning of his presence, gathered around La Libertad Park and gave him a warm ovation.

SPAIN'S GONZALEZ' REMARKS ON CENTRAL AMERICA

FL231647 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1525 GMT 23 Jun 83

[Text] Washington -- Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez has rejected the Reagan administration's inclination to view the Central American conflict as part of the East-West confrontation. The Spanish ruler made the statement at the local press club.

RAMIREZ CRUZ RAPS U.S. AT PRAGUE PEACE ASSEMBLY

FL231230 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 23 Jun 83

[Text] The increasingly aggressive and arrogant attitude of the rulers in Washington forces the Latin American and Caribbean status quo into the peace or war dilemma confronted by today's world. Thus stated Jose Ramirez Cruz, president of the Cuban delegation to the World Assembly for Peace and Life and Against Nuclear War, in Prague. Pepe [nickname] Ramirez is an alternate member of the Communist Party of Cuba Politburo, member of the Council of State, and president of the National Association of Small Farmers -- ANAP.

The chief of the Cuban delegation said that, in Latin America as in the entire world, the struggle for peace is of extreme importance and has become an unavoidable task. The Cuban leader said that this common goal requires the assistance and support of every earnest person beyond the differences in ideological, philosophical, or political beliefs which may exist.

This, said Pepe Ramirez, becomes even more important at a time when the Ronald Reagan administration has launched a runaway arms race and a clumsy anti-Soviet Union campaign in the search for military superiority which would allow them to launch a nuclear first-strike against socialism.

COMMENTARY ON SALVADORAN PRESIDENT'S U.S. VISIT

PA230448 Havana International Service in Spanish 2310 GMT 22 Jun 83

["Our America" commentary]

[Text] Provisional Salvadoran President Alvaro Magana visited the United States for 2 days to request more military aid. It has been affirmed that each time he opened his mouth it was to ask for weapons and ammunition. He had indeed a very understanding interlocutor, U.S. President Reagan, who, after repeating his usual diatribes against communism, Cuba, and the Soviet Union, promised to do his best to increase arms shipments to El Salvador.

Magana admitted that in his talks with U.S. authorities he succeeded in making substantial progress and found understanding for his demands. He blamed the U.S. Congress for the delays in authorizing an increase in military assistance to the Salvadoran Army. He said that the current situation in El Salvador makes it very difficult to respect human rights, and that vast social sectors are openly hostile to the government there.

In statements that surprised the North American press, Magana asserted that his country's army is winning the war, and that the offensive capacity of the FMLN forces is decreasing daily. As if he were trying to encourage himself, Magana said repeatedly that El Salvador's military situation will decisively tilt toward the men in uniform in the coming months, and that thus it will be possible to hold the elections scheduled for December in a satisfactory manner.

Actually, the military situation in El Salvador is quite different. According to Magana's statements, the hundreds of casualities that the Salvadoran Army is suffering monthly are not enough to reduce the military capacity of an army that is on the defensive. From Magana's statements, it is surmised that he is unaware of what everybody else knows, that is, of the constant setbacks suffered by the genocidal Salvadoran Army, which has sustained over 800 casualties and lost substantial war materiel in the last 6 months alone. Magana apparently does not know either that almost all of El Salvador's northwestern region is virtually in the hands of the rebel forces, which are daily increasing their area of activity and consolidating their positions in the liberated territories.

This representative of the most reactionary circles of the oligarchy and the Salvadoran Army also pretends to ignore the hundreds of soldiers who have lately deserted their units and crossed over to the guerrillas, convinced of the falshehood of the cause they were defending. Over the weekend alone, FMLN insurgents inflicted over 50 casualties on the enemy in battles near Suchitoto and areas close to San Salvador. According to reports, the armed clashes took place in the town of San Jose Cuayabal and on the San Salvador-Suchitoto road, which the rebels held for several hours.

This situation cannot be ignored by Magana, and much less by his closest military advisers, some of whom have publicly acknowledged the successful development of the rebel actions.

Therefore, Magana's statements in Washington are actually a maneuver aimed at drumming up support in the U.S. Congress so it will approve new arms shipments to that Central American country. However, not even this will enable the regime to win the war against the people. Weapons are not sufficient to dash the Salvadoran patriots' hopes for justice and freedom.

CARIBBEAN TO BENEFIT FROM EEC LOANS, AID

FL232014 Bridgetown CANA in English 1639 GMT 23 Jun 83

[Excerpt] Brussels, June 23, CANA -- The European Community Commission today announced it would spend 3.4 million dollars (U.S.) on trade and tourism schemes throughout the Caribbean. The commission also said Trinidad and Tobago would receive around three million dollars for training and other development programmes. The announcement covered new loans and aid worth nearly 60 million dollars for more than 20 developing countries.

U.S., CARIBBEAN LAWMAKERS HOLD CONFERENCE

FL231858 Bridgetown CANA in English 1818 GMT 23 Jun 83

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, June 23, CANA -- U.S. state legislators and Commonwealth Caribbean parliamentarians began two-day conference in Kingston today at which they are discussing the region's economic problems, parliament systems and the ways they impinge on development. The two main subjects are "the economic development and recovery programmes in the Caribbean region" and "the system of parliamentary models and procedures."

The participants from the U.S.A. include William Passannante, speaker, New York Senate, and legislators from Colorado, Texas, Florida and the U.S. federal Congress. There are also representatives from the National Conference of State Legislatives [as received] (NCSL) of the U.S.A., which organised the conference.

The English-speaking Caribbean territories represented include the Bahamas, the Turks and Caicos Islands and Trinidad and Tobago.

Today's talks centre on economic recovery and development and are being led by Dr Headley Brown, director of Jamaica's National Planning Agency. Participants are looking at investment, trade, tourism and technical development.

ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

HAVANA CITES BIRD'S REJECTION OF IMF DEMANDS

FL231746 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 23 June 83

[Excerpt] Antigua and Barbuda has rejected IMF demands because they would trigger massive layoffs and a cut in people's incomes. The prime minister of the young republic, Vere Bird, announced the government's decision and said the IMF proposed the mass dismissal of seasonal workers, a reduction of the work week, and a cut and a freeze on both the number of government employees and their wages.

BARBADOS

PRIME MINISTER CLARIFIES COMMENTS ON IMF PROGRAM

FL231939 Bridgetown BARBADOS ADVOCATE in English 14 Jun 83 p 1

[Text] The Prime Minister and Minister of Finance and Planning, Mr. J.M.G. Adams has pointed out that the Barbados programme with the International Monetary Fund was temporarily suspended, pending review after the issue passed its March test.

Mr Adams has stated that he has not made any statement about the matter in Trinidad and Tobago but that speaking recently following the Caricom Finance Ministers meeting held at Dover Convention Centre he referred to "a halt" which may have been interpreted as implying a total cessation of the IMF programme. "I wish to make it clear that after the island passed the March IMF test, the necessity for the continuation of programme was reviewed, a process that took sometime. The Government therefore delayed the resumption of the programme. However the necessary documentation has been submitted for the continuation of drawing rights. The Governor of the Central Bank and I have signed a new Letter of Intent, a copy of which will be laid in Parliament. Barbados will therefore draw a sum of 19.2 m SDR's which is approximately (Bds$43 m) to be drawn in equal quarterly installments over the next 12 months.

"As I have since explained to the public of Barbados, I concluded that it was necessary to continue our programme because a great deal of our liquid cash is tied up in the Caribbean Multi-lateral Clearing Facility (CMCF)."

GRENADA

HAVANA REPORTS SHIPMENT OF GOODS FROM ALGERIA

FL210108 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 20 Jun 83

[Text] A shipment of varied products valued at about 2 million pesos, donated by the Algerian Government to Grenada, arrived in St. George's. The products which include wine, fertilizer, clothing, canned juices and sanitary supplies, among other items, form a part of a donation promised to the Government of Grenada by Algeria.

According to sources, the items will be sold on the local market and the earnings realized from their sale be used for the construction of the international airport being built on the Point Salines Peninsula. The Algerian donation is a part of th agreements signed between Grenada and Algeria during a visit by Prime Minister Mau ce Bishop to that Arab country in North Africa in 1980.

JAMAICA

GOVERNMENT SUSPENDS CONSUMER IMPORT QUOTAS

FL222144 Bridgetown CANA in English 1839 GMT 22 Jun 83

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, June 22, CANA -- The Jamaica Government has told importers here that it is no longer issuing quotas for the importation of consumer goods this year.

President of the Jamaica Chamber of Commerce, Bruce Richards, told members at a meeting yesterday that he had been told about the move by junior industry and commerce minister, Anthony Johnson.

In an economic austerity package presented last week, the government announced that imports this fiscal year would be cut by 159 million dollars (U.S.) to 1.2 billion dollars (U.S.).

Consumer goods had 53 million dollars (U.S.) pared from the original outlay, bringing it down to 137 million dollars (U.S.).

The freeze on quotas is being taken here to mean that the budget for consumer goods is either exhausted or not far from.

COLOMBIA

BETANCUR CONGRATULATES NEW PRC PRESIDENT

PA231211 Paris AFP in Spanish 0203 GMT 23 Jun 83

[Text] Bogota, 22 Jun (AFP) -- In a message addressed to Li Xiannian, the new PRC president, President Belisario Betancur has made an appeal for cooperation in consolidating peace in the world, particularly in Latin America.

On congratulating the Chinese leader upon his assumption of the post, Betancur said: "The ideals of peace, of which the world is in greater need every day, hope to find an enthusiastic echo in you, so that we may all work united in the search for a more just and less hazardous path toward a peaceful future."

"This future," the Colombian head of state says, "can only find solid foundations in mutual respect among peoples, equitable international trade relations, and peace, which is humanity's first and last goal." President Betancur concluded by saying that "this is the goal that we, the Contadora Group countries, have established for ourselves, so that we may eradicate violence in Central America and the Caribbean, sidelining the arms race advocates and guaranteeing the region's peoples the right to self-determination, without external agitation."

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

PRESIDENT ASSUMES INDUSTRY, COMMERCE PORTFOLIO

FL221016 Santo Domingo Radio Clarin in Spanish 0450 GMT 22 Jun 83

[Text] President Salvador Jorge Blanco has taken a series of measures to maintain administrative operations at the Secretariat of Industry and Commerce. President Jorge Blanco assumed control of the secretariat after Jose de Carmen Marcano resigned his secretary post.

Rafael Flores Estrella, administrative secretary of the presidency, announced the measures taken by the president who met with senior officials of the secretariat. He said Jorge Blanco also settled some affairs of the secretariat and conducted a tour through the various departments to become familiar with their operations and to meet with the employees. Last week, the president dismissed Marcano from his post as secretary of industry and commerce after Marcano left his post in anger over the president's decision to increase the price of a half liter of fresh milk by 3 cents.

GUYANA

JAGAN DECLINES TO CONSULT WITH BURNHAM

FL231930 Bridgetown CANA in English 1814 GMT 23 Jun 83

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, June 23, CANA -- Guyana's opposition leader, Dr Cheddi Jagan, has declined an invitation from President Forbes Burnham to consult on appointments to the Police Service Commission and the Public Service Commission, the MIRROR newspaper reported.

Jagan has in the past called such consultations meaningless since the commissions are packed with loyalists of the ruling People's National Congress (PNC).

In a letter to Burnham, the opposition paper quoted Jagan as saying that "the continuing situation of racial and political discrimination in Guyana means that in reality the PPP has no real voice in these and similar statutory bodies." The domination of these service commissions by the ruling party has led not only to discrimination but to mal-administration and inefficiency which are having an adverse effect on the economy, Jagan added.

"It is my view that these bodies were intended to function in a neutral way and that provision should be made for this, and for the opposition to have an effective voice," Jagan declared.

VENEZUELA

MEXICAN ENERGY SECRETARY ARRIVES FOR TALKS

FL221230 Bridgetown CANA in English 0004 GMT 22 Jun 83

[Text] Caracas, June 21, CANA-REUTER -- Mexican Energy Secretary Francisco Labastida arrived here today for talks on regional oil supplies and the renewal of a joint oil assistance scheme for nine Central American and Caribbean countries, Venezuela's Energy and Mines Minister Humberto Calderon Berti said. Ministry officials said the main purpose of Labastida's visit would be to finalise conditions under which the 160,000 barrels per day San Jose oil supply accord would be renewed on August 1.

The officials said the two ministers were also expected to review an agreement signed earlier this year to align heavy crude pricing policy, intended to avoid undue competition between them and consequent pressure on prices. Last March, Mexico contributed to an OPEC plan for defending prices by fixing its own prices in line with the new OPEC benchmark of 29 dollars per barrel.

POLICE DISMANTLE LEFTIST CELL IN CARACAS

PA232024 Paris AFP in Spanish 1844 GMT 23 Jun 83

[Text] Caracas, 23 Jun (AFP) -- Venezuelan ultraleftist guerrillas were dealt a new blow this week when the political police dismantled an active cell in Caracas and detained about 20 suspects. Among the detainees is Humberto Lozada, one of the most sought-after activists in Red Flag, which is the only Venezuelan leftist group that is up in arms against the representative democracy there.

The government has estimated that "about 30" guerrillas are up in arms in the eastern rural areas of the country. An undetermined number of contacts and sympathizers supposedly operate in various urban cells like the one dismantled this week which, according to police, forged documents for the rebels. Gabriel Puerto Aponte, the leader of Red Flag, who describes himself as a Marxist-Leninist, is under arrest at the military prison in Caracas.

According to official information, the most recent clash between the guerrillas and the army occurred more than a year ago near Cantaura, in the east, where 1 soldier and 25 irregulars were killed.